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20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

An Englishman's castle: Two of the most beautiful stately homes of England will soon be passing out of the hands of the families who have cherished them. Hever Castle, home of the Astor family for 80 years, has been sold and its estate is about to be auctioned. Kedleston Hall, where the Cursons have lived for more than 300 years, is to be offered to the nation in settlement of a tax bill. Spectrum tomorrow looks at the past, present and future of these great houses and the people whose lives have revolved round them.

On the Friday Page, best-selling novelist Judith Krantz explains her own particular brand of escapism from a dreary world.

IRA victim defied army rules

Sergeant Brian Purvis, whose wife was shot dead by the Provisional IRA at her mother's home in Londonderry, had defied army regulations by being there. He was seriously injured in the attack.

The sergeant, who is stationed at Wimborne, Dorset, had obtained permission to accompany his Ulster-born wife on condition that he stayed with army friends at military barracks.

Page 3

Shift to right in Transvaal

The South African Government suffered a setback in four crucial by-elections in Transvaal, with the results underlining the continuing shift to the right of the white electorate. The by-elections were seen as a limited plebiscite on the Nationalist Government's controversial constitutional reforms.

Page 6

Sakharov ban

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Prize winner, cannot leave the Soviet Union. This said yesterday. The announcement came soon after Dr Sakharov had said he was willing to leave the country.

Roach decision

The inquest into the death of Colia Roach, the black youth who died of shotgun wounds in the entrance of a London police station, is to resume on June 5 at Clerkenwell County Court.

Vienna coalition

The Socialists and the right-wing Freedom Party have reached agreement on a new Austrian Government. Together they have a majority of 21 in the 183-seat Parliament elected on April 24.

Trade call

Steps for closer cooperation between the International Monetary Fund and other world agencies to liberalize trade were urged by representatives of leading Western nations and Japan at a meeting in Paris.

Page 25

French loan

France has applied for a 30 billion franc loan from the EEC to boost foreign exchange reserves. Community ministers are expected to approve the request on Monday.

Page 8

Aga Khan sale

A magnificent collection of African art belonging to the Aga Khan's uncle and estimated to be worth £750,000, is to be sold at Sotheby's next month.

Page 16

Leader page 15
Letters: On prisons from Mr Martin Wright and Lord Ryton; union recognition from Mr John Lyons; nuclear weapons from Mr John Wilkinson, MP; Leading articles: Solzhenitsyn; Economy; Census.

Features, pages 10 and 14.

Can the EEC ever be a fair deal? Ronald Butt on Labour's great unmentionable: The making of Chambers' Dictionary; Spare a thought for cockroaches; Spectrum: The cleaning classes move upstairs.

Todays Office, pages 17-22.

A six-page Special Report covering design and new developments in office technology Books, page 11.

Michael Ratcliffe, reviews Ian Hamilton's biography of Robert Lowell; Ronald Lewin on war; Grantray Goulden on India; Philip Howard on Caesar; Gay Firth and Stuart Evans on fiction.

Obituary, page 16.

Professor C. E. Pickford, Mrs Anna Rosenberg Hoffman

Labour agrees its election manifesto at record speed

The Labour Party took just over an hour to agree its manifesto, adopting the campaign document it published in March.

A Gallup opinion poll, conducted at the weekend and published today, shows the Conservatives have a 17½ per cent lead over Labour.

By Julian Heslop, Political Editor

ON OTHER PAGES

Thatcher attack
£2m for Labour
Disappearing marginals
Ronald Butt
Frank Johnson

The Labour Party selected Mr Reginald Freeson, the sitting MP, as candidate for Brent, East, overriding the local party's preference for Mr Kenneth Livingstone.

Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel demanded equal broadcasting time for the SDP-Liberal Alliance during the campaign

would write a fresh foreword, updating for the campaign - but certainly not modifying - his blast against the Prime Minister for worshipping the profit motive.

The pledge to increase the retirement pension "as soon as practicable" by £1.45 for a single person and £2.25 for a married couple will be added to the so-called "emergency" programme from which it is said to have been omitted by accident.

But there will be no other changes and no new policy in the document, which will be republished on Monday.

It was also agreed to print a "popular" 2,500-word leaflet of selected goodies from the main document for pushing through letter-boxes. Its bolder, briefer language has some interesting omissions. It does not tell the householder that the aim is to close all nuclear bases and leave the European Community within five years. But Mr Morris emphasized that the manifesto is the authoritative document.

Only Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor, argued for a new draft to be written objecting to the document's pedestrian language, but giving his heartiest impression that he disliked much of the content.

So the contract which Labour is offering the election is the familiar one, including heavy state spending to expand the economy with the aim of reducing unemployment to below a million within five years, the pursuit of a non-nuclear defence policy and withdrawal from the European Community.

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He explained that the text had been "very tightly written - every sentence means something", and that it had been pointed out at the meeting, that there was "a balance of commitments at each stage, and that even an abbreviation might distort the balance".

Continued on back page, col 4

Alliance demands TV parity

By Our Political Staff

Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel last night demanded equal broadcasting time for the SDP-Liberal Alliance during the general election campaign.

Supported by their chief whips, Mr John Roper and Mr Alan Beith, the Alliance leaders went into a private meeting with the broadcasting authorities and Tory and Labour front-benchers to press for an equal allocation of election broadcasts and, perhaps more significantly, air time during television and radio news programmes.

The Tories, led by Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, and Mr Michael Jopling, the Chief Whip, and the Labour Party, represented by Mr John Silkin, Shadow Commons leader, and Mr Michael Cocks, Opposition Chief Whip, were determined to resist the demand, arguing that the Alliance should be allocated three broadcasts to every five allocated to them, the ratio which applied during the last election when the Liberals stood alone.

The broadcasting authorities, managed briefly to regain control but as the van slowed before a railway bridge south of Liphook, the fighting began again and three prisoners escaped, running on to Liphook golf course.

Shortly afterwards, he saw the van stop and three men get out and ran on to the course, pursued by a prison officer. Mr Standing drove back to the clubhouse; another member of his staff subsequently saw one

The other four prison officers managed briefly to regain control but as the van slowed before a railway bridge south of Liphook, the fighting began again and three prisoners escaped from the emergency rear door after wrestling the handcuffs keys from one of the officers.

With the fighting continuing, the driver stopped the van at the other side of the bridge and a further three prisoners escaped, running on to Liphook golf course.

Of the first group of escapees, one was recaptured after attempting to board a train to London.

Mr David Thorne, the booking clerk at Liphook station, said: "He had commanded a Post Office van and ordered the driver to get to the station as quickly as possible because he was chasing escaped prisoners. He even had the cheek to ask the postman for 10p for a telephone call. He told me he was from the CID, and that he was keeping an eye on the station for escaped prisoners."

After waiting on the platform for 25 minutes, the prisoner was arrested by a uniformed policeman about a minute before the train arrived.

Mr Thorne said the prisoner was "smartly dressed in a blue suit", but added that "he looked a bit rough because he had a band on his right cheek and a scar on his left cheek".

Reports that three of the escaped prisoners were in plain

clothes were denied last night by the Home Office.

The two other prisoners who jumped out of the moving van persuaded a motorist to give them a lift to Guildford hospital, after saying they had been involved in an accident.

Police from Surrey, Hampshire and Sussex forces were searching for them with the aid of dogs and a helicopter after a bizarre series of incidents including a chase across a golf course, the hijacking of a car, and an attempt by one prisoner to board a train for London as a detective.

At about 1.30am, north of Liphook, Hampshire, the A3 stock fight was staged by several of the men, who were among 14 dangerous but not top security prisoners being taken by van from Wandsworth prison, London, to Parkhurst.

Two prisoners put their handcuffed arms round the neck of Mr John Ship, the principal officer, and wrestled him to the floor, while others tried to kick the windows out.

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Other shades of red are permissible, but should be chosen to avoid clashing with those scarlet garments which were still in use.

The bishop suggests replacement vestments could be bought in pairs, so that the colour effect in churches would look more natural, but he admits: "They will look rather like a deanery choir festival for a bit."

The adoption of the royal livery colour had happened "in all innocence", the bishop added. It first came to light when the Queen visited one of the cathedrals,

of the men cross the A3 in the direction of Longmoor.

Meanwhile, Mr James Stewart, aged 64, a retired telephone engineer, had just left the sixteenth green. Suddenly, off the A3 charged four or five chaps, covering 100 yards in about 12 seconds. They charged up the sixteenth fairway, and then we saw they were being pursued a man in uniform.

"He shouted at us, 'For God's sake, phone the police'.

At that moment the postman came round the corner in his van, on his way to the clubhouse, and we told him to tell the secretary. "We played the next two holes, but my opponent must have been put off because he lost the next, and I won the match two and one."

Commander John Ashton, secretary of the Liphook golf

Continued on back page, col 2

Bishops urge strict rules on embryo fertilization

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The techniques of fertilizing embryos outside the mother's womb should be subject to strict limitations to prohibit experiments, a committee representing the Roman Catholic bishops of Great Britain has recommended to the Warnock inquiry into human fertilization.

The committee, under the Most Rev. Thomas Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow, stated in its evidence, published today, that new medical procedures must not be allowed to undermine the basic dignity of human beings.

This could happen if fertilized embryos were treated as a mere means to an end, and not given the respect due to human life. Although the committee envisages in vitro techniques

being approved, subject to tight conditions, it also expresses misgivings at the idea itself.

It separated the conception and early development of human life from its proper context of loving sexual intercourse within marriage, thus threatening moral values which the church defended and possibly altering the status of the child in respect to its parents.

Among the practices the committee found unacceptable were the storing of frozen embryos in banks for drug testing or tissue transplants, "surrogate" motherhood and fatherhood, so-called "womb leasing" or egg donation from one woman to another, and cloning and trans-species fertilization.

Mr Peter Jenkins, chairman of

the committee, said: "The

church has a clear position

on this issue."

Continued on back page, col 2

Parker reports £174m BR loss

By Michael Daly, Transport Editor

Sir Peter Parker, the British Rail chairman, yesterday reported to the nation a £174 million loss for the last year, but followed it up with good news.

There are to be no further fare increases this year. In addition, tough measures, such as manpower cuts and productivity improvements have increased dramatically. British Rail's prospects: Investment is to be doubled over the next five years to £400m-£500m, he told a London press conference.

This would bring better commuter and rural trains, more punctual and reliable services, and more attractive stations. It would reverse the "climbing edge of quality" to which he has constantly referred in his seven years' chairman-ship.

Sir Peter declined to join Mr

Jame Knapp, new general secretary of the National Union of Railmen, in condemning the Conservatives as anti-rail and calling for a Labour

government to save the rail-

ways. BR was now well on the way to an assured future by its own efforts.

Whichever party was re-

turned next month would face

tough decisions on London

commuter and rural services.

But whereas last year's strikes

had cost BR £170m and turned

a break-even situation into a

£174m loss, it was the culmina-

tion of productivity improve-

ments worth £250m a year

which could be invested in an

improving railway, irrespective

of politics.

BR's latest annual report

shows that manpower reduc-

tions, at 27,000 over the

past two years, were well ahead

of the target 38,000 over five

years. A further 10,000 are

expected this year.

Strikes blamed for £174m los-

ses

ELECTION JUNE 83

PM on Jimmy Young show

Finance Bill casualties

CND challenged

Thatcher steps up the campaign with attack on unilateralism

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday described the Soviet Union as the "sworn enemies" of the West, in an interview which significantly stepped up her attack on Labour's plans for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said on the *Jimmy Young* programme on BBC radio: "You do not, if you really hate nuclear weapons, as I do, you do not say we will have one-sided disarmament and throw out all the American bases, leave all the weapons in the hands of our sworn enemies then hope to goodness they will negotiate. Of course they won't."

Mrs Thatcher said: "The Warsaw Pact, Russia, is the greatest threat to the freedom of the West and she doesn't hesitate to use her tanks to roll in, not only to the satellite countries, but to Afghanistan. We shall never forget that."

She said that Britain and her allies could only negotiate from strength, but when asked, specifically, whether she would hope to meet the Soviet leader, she replied: "I don't see why we should always go the Moscow to see Mr Andropov, do you?"

"Mr Andropov has never set foot in a non-communist country, he has never breathed the air of freedom, he doesn't know what it is like. This is one of the problems when you are dealing with communist countries; they don't know what it is like."

Heseltine challenge to CND

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament should put up election candidates and see how much support it would get if it really wants credibility, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said yesterday.

He said that he thought CND wanted to elevate itself to the status of government. His proposal was dismissed as absurd by Mgr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, whose policy is not run its own candidates or to endorse any individual party or candidate.

Mr Ray Whitney, Conservative MP for Wycombe accused the CND of giving advice on election campaign tactics to its local groups that went "well beyond the activities of pressure groups to which we have all become accustomed".

Ways in which CND proposed to put pressure on candidates, for example by ensuring adverse publicity to any candidate who refused to take part in meetings organized by CND would, Mr Whitney said, "be of interest to all of us who support the democratic parliamentary process".

Mr Kent said: "If what we are doing is outside the law, which we do not believe it is, no doubt Mr Whitney has his remedies. We are simply exercising our democratic right in this country to make our opinions known".

like for people to have human rights which do not depend on government."

"I am not going to ask Mr Andropov here. What I think would be better is if we had a few conferences where Mr Andropov comes, perhaps to a neutral country outside the Soviet Union."

"Eventually, you know, it is better that we talk. We do talk in various conferences, but I just don't think that everyone should stream to Moscow to see Mr Andropov."

Mrs Thatcher also stepped up the strength of her condemnation of Labour's policy to withdraw from the European Economic Community.

She said that the consequences of withdrawal would be "absolutely disastrous". With 43 per cent of British exports going to the Community, there would be a threat to export-based employment. She also emphasized the importance to the world of democracies working together within an area of stability.

"I think it would be terrifying to take us out," she said. "Terrifying for future of democracy, terrifying for the future of jobs. It would be total confusion, and industry would all of a sudden find barriers put up against her when she tried to export into Europe, so our

exports would be more expensive. Confusion would reign."

Asked about the Stuttgart summit, on June 6 and 7, Mrs Thatcher said that her attendance would depend on the success of preliminary talks. "If it were just a question of doing the final negotiations there, obviously one would go."

The Prime Minister said that the choice between Conservative and Labour made the general election extremely important. "I believe the Labour Party wants to change the sort of society which we have. I believe it wants to go to a much, much more controlled society: more state industries, more state control, bigger taxation. I believe the British people don't want it."

She said that the Conservative Government had wrought a fundamental change in Britain. The country had regained its confidence and self-respect and had attracted a new regard and admiration from abroad.

"We are a marvellous people. The fundamental thing about us", she said, "is that whether we are the 23½ million in work or the three million who unfortunately haven't got work, whatever part we come from, from all walks of life, we are united by a common belief that this is a free country and it is going to stay that way, and that that is worth defending, and we are going to defend it."

(To be continued)

Healey's Comet

Pym picks chief for anti-disarmament

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, has appointed a senior diplomat to head the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's contribution to the Government's drive against the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

He is Mr Herbert "Tommy" Tucker, who returned to London recently after a tour as Consul-General in Vancouver. His official title is Disarmament Information Coordinator.

Mr Pym made the appointment before the general election was called. Mr Tucker will be the Foreign Office's equivalent of Mr John Eddle, the choice of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, to lead his department's counter-CND unit.

Mr Tucker has been acting as the Foreign Office's link with the Ministry of Defence in planning the Government's response to CND. He attends the gathering of officials which prepares material for Mr Heseltine's weekly meeting of ministers on nuclear weapons and public opinion.

Mr Tucker, aged 57, an official of counsellor rank, has a background in journalism and the Government Information Service as well as experience of more mainstream diplomatic work.

He served for a time in the 1960s as number two in the Foreign Office's now disbanded Information Research Department, which existed from 1948

to 1977 as Britain's riposte to disinformation originating in the Soviet block.

Now that the age of détente, for the time being, has passed, there are voices in ministerial and official circles calling for the Information Research Department to be revived in some form.

They point to the strength of the peace movement in western Europe and the accession to power in the Soviet Union of Mr Yuri Andropov, former head of the KGB and a disinformation expert.

The Foreign Office issued a statement to *The Times* about Mr Tucker's appointment: "In recent months there has been a big increase in letters to the FCO from the public and in requests for information and speakers on arms control and disarmament subjects. This has placed a heavy additional burden on those dealing with policy matters."

It was therefore decided to appoint Mr Tucker to help with this work and to coordinate between FCO departments and between the FCO and MoD in this area."

An official spokesman added yesterday: "Mr Tucker is taking the opportunity of the election to have some holiday and to continue his research into the subject. This is a completely open and responsive appointment. There is no question of it involving a reconstitution of the Information Research Department's activity."

Mr Graham's views were dismissed by Mr Kevin Roddy, union president, who said that

Trade unions support for the Labour Party was given a fillip yesterday when the traditionally non-political Civil and Public Services Association, the largest Civil Service union, agreed to hold a ballot which could lead to affiliation to the party.

The 209,000 members will vote in the autumn on the establishment of a political fund, which could mean affiliation to the Labour Party for the first time since 1927.

Delegates to the union's conference in Brighton agreed to press for the ballot in spite of a warning from Mr Alistair Graham, the general secretary, that the membership was being alienated because of our increasingly high political profile".

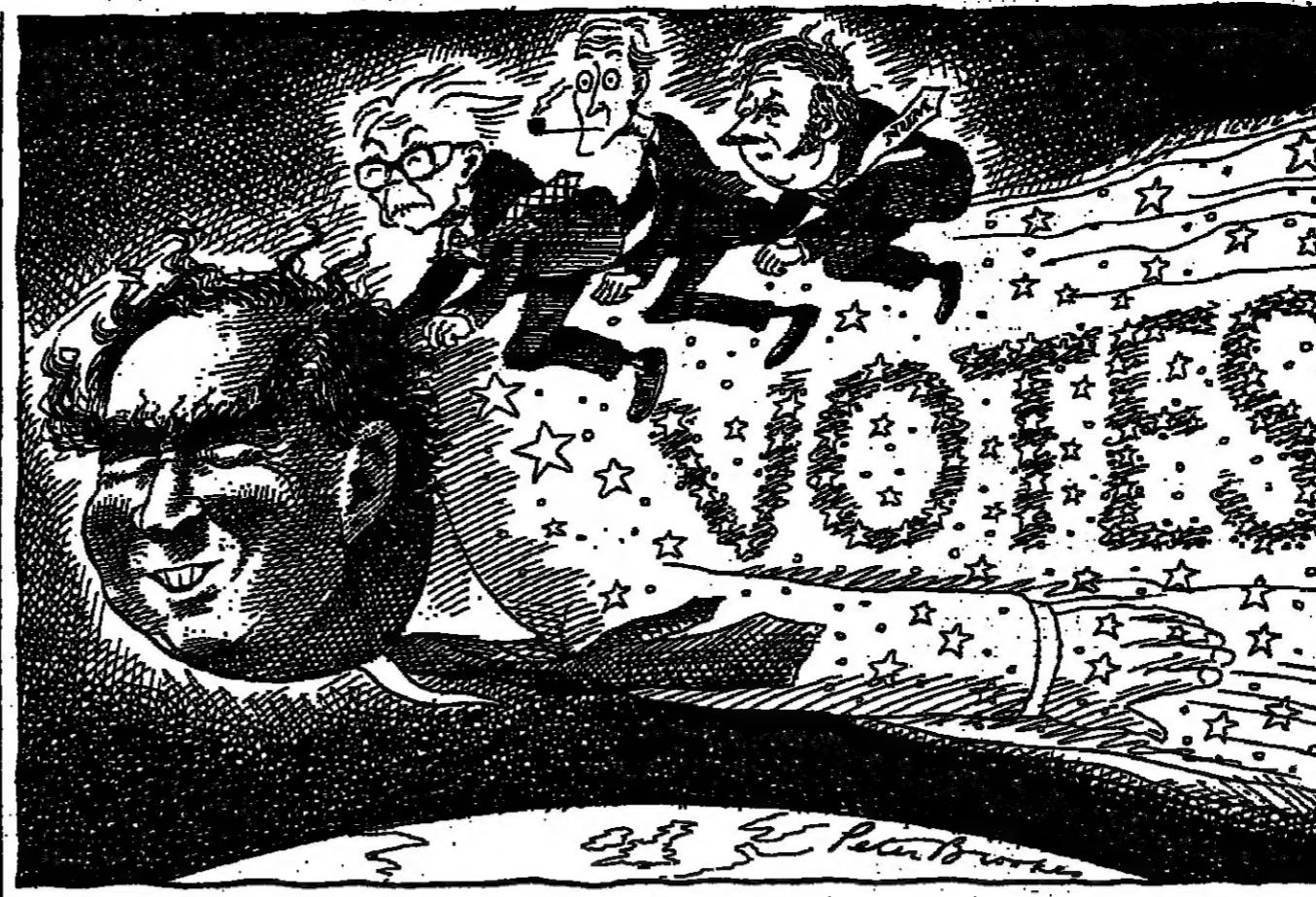
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Magistrate not first to free killer rapist

Mr Ian Boyd, the Hull stipendiary magistrate criticized for releasing on bail John Rigglesworth, a rapist who killed a woman, disclosed yesterday that he had not previously refused the man bail six times, and had not caused his release, but renewed bail.

Mr Boyd, now the stipendiary magistrate in Leeds, said in a statement: "At the communal proceedings which took place before me seven weeks after the original grant of bail, the accused having duly surrendered in answer to his bail, there was no evidence or representation made to me by the prosecution that new circumstances existed whereby bail should not be renewed".

With the exception of three very expensive pictures, prices



Healey's Comet

IN BRIEF

5p TV licence shelved

The 5p television licence concession for about 43,000 physically disabled and mentally disordered people announced in February by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, have had to be shelved because of the election announcement. Regulations had not been laid before Parliament for the necessary 28 days before the measure could be approved.

● A visit to London next week by Mr Vladimir Ponomarov, mayor of Moscow, at the invitation of the Greater London Council, has been postponed because of the election. Mr Harvey Hindle, GLC chairman, said that the visit could not guarantee the visit would not be drawn into the political debate.

● Mr Hugh Dykes, Conservative MP for Harrow, East in London has been unanimously adopted to fight the enlarged seat. At the last election he had a majority of 7,378 over Labour.

● The Wessex Regionalist Party will contest at least nine seats on a platform of self-government for Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire, Hampshire and Berkshire.

● Four unions with members in educational establishments and the National Union of Students will campaign in marginal constituencies in the election to draw attention to education cuts.

● The visit by Mr Junius Jayewardene, President of Sri Lanka, has been postponed from June 7-10 until October 25-28, because of the election.

Brittan's pledge on tax

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said last night that an extra 300,000 people would be dragged into the higher income tax bands by Labour's amendments to the Finance Bill.

He told the Commons that the Government had had no alternative but to accede to Labour demands, in order to enact the Budget legislation before tomorrow's dissolution of Parliament. But he pledged to reinstate the provisions if the Conservatives were returned to power.

Mr Brittan said that a Labour demand that the 40 per cent tax band should not be increased from £12,800 to £14,600 would affect the middle income group, and it had been misleading for Labour spokesmen to talk of the changes not being drawn into the political debate.

He pointed out that Labour's refusal to sanction an increase in the threshold for investment income surcharge, from £6,250 to £7,100, would affect a married man on twice average earnings, about £17,000 a year, who would then be expected to pay back £60 in September, with an increased monthly tax bill of £10.

A married man on twice average earnings, about £17,000 a year, would then be expected to pay back £60 in September, with an increased monthly tax bill of £10.

Because tax codings would not have to be readjusted to take account of the changed Finance Bill until August 31, if the changes persisted beyond that date the revenue would have to collect underpaid taxes for an estimated 950,000 high-bracket taxpayers.

A married man on twice average earnings, about £17,000 a year, would then be expected to pay back £60 in September, with an increased monthly tax bill of £10.

However, if a Labour government were elected and repealed the Budget provisions, then taxpayers would face a large clawback of tax relief.

● The visit to Britain by Mr Spyros Kyriakides, the President of Cyprus, next week, has been postponed.

A £500,000 fund has also been set up from which unions whose political funds are low can borrow large interest-free loans to make yet more cash available to the Labour Party.

Of the cash gifts already agreed, Npue is clearly in the lead. Behind it come the middle-ranking unions such as the Technical and Supervisory Section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

The print union Sogat '82 is understood to be making £50,000 available.

● Conservative moves to make it easier for unions to opt out of paying a political levy with their contributions would "rob" the Labour Party of election funds, Mr Basnett said on TV-am (The Press Association reports).

Asked if he thought the present system was fair when "some 40 per cent of trade unionists vote Conservative", Mr Basnett replied: "I doubt that figure... but it's a little more democratic than industry, which just gives money to the Tories without any mandate to anybody."

50 clauses deleted from Finance Bill

By Our Political Correspondent

The agreement between the Government and the Labour Front Bench on the Finance Bill deleted 50 clauses from the legislation.

The entire section on customs and excise duties went through, but two clauses on value-added tax were deleted.

Taxation clauses on 1982 corporation tax, advance corporation tax for 1983, personal reliefs and widows' bereavement allowances were accepted, but clauses on higher rate bands and investment income surcharge, small companies' corporation tax and relief for interest were amended.

In the same general chapter on taxation, the House accepted clauses dealing with loan interest paid under deduction of tax, assigned life policies and annuity contracts, repayment annuity relief, shareholders' living accommodation provided for employees, schedule E payments, covenant arrangements, rates of interest for government savings, suspension of certain payments into the National Loan Fund in respect of new towns, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and pre-consolidated amendments went through.

The whole of chapter two of the Bill, dealing with controlled foreign companies, fell.

In chapter three, on capital allowances, the only deletion was the clause dealing with allowances for dwelling houses let on assured tenancies. Similarly, only one clause survived in chapter four, dealing with capital gains. The surviving clause was for pooling indemnity.

All the third part of the Bill, on capital transfer tax, was deleted, but the chapter on house tax was carried without change.

The chapter on assets, relief for expenditure and charge of receipts, fall, as did three clauses on development land tax.

The clause on reduction in national insurance surcharge and miscellaneous provisions on savings, banks' group relief for disposals before a company enters a group; group relief for disposals after a company enters a group; stock relief on houses taken in part-exchange; carry-back of advance corporation tax; double taxation relief to be applied before advance corporation tax and recovery of certain taxes in lower courts.

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Distribution of cinema films criticized by monopolies commission

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The system of distributing and exhibiting films in British cinemas, which is largely carried out by two distributors and two exhibitors, amounts to a monopoly which is against the public interest, according to a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, published yesterday.

The commission found that a number of monopolies existed which favoured the distributors (Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors and United International Pictures (UK), which have about 50 per cent of the market, and the exhibitors, EMI Cinemas and Rank Leisure, which between them take about 80 per cent of the market.

There was no comment from the companies last night but they said that the commission's conclusion was probably too late.

Mr Lindsay Anderson, the

film director, said the only attractive to audiences". Mr Anderson said:

The commission's report pointed to the monopolies existing through the practice of alignment, whereby distributors normally first offer their films to EMI or Rank in preference to other exhibitors, and through the practice of barring, which results from long-standing arrangements between exhibitors about which cinemas will show a film first.

The report concluded that the only effective remedy to the adverse effects of the system of alignment would be the reduction of a substantial number of EMI and Rank cinemas, but that this would not be practical. At present EMI operates 119 cinemas with 308 screens, while Rank has 89 cinemas with 225 screens.

Mr Jack Gold, another filmmaker, recalled that his film *The Boofus Gun* failed to get a national circuit showing.

This report is almost too late. The two exerted a virtual monopoly which has been especially badly done by because they were rejected in favour of travolques, but many potential full-length films had never even been made because of the need to arrange the finance and distribution before shooting he said.

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There was no comment from the companies last night but they said that the commission's conclusion was probably too late.

Mr Lindsay Anderson, the

Regular casuals win rights

The General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union's attempt to bring regularly employed casual workers in the catering trade within the scope of job security rights won backing from the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London yesterday.

The tribunal held that three wine waiters engaged on a regular casual basis by Trust House Forte were "employees" entitled to claim unfair dismissal redress.

But Mr Justice Brown-Wilkinson, the tribunal president emphasized: "We are not deciding that all casuals are employees either in the catering trade or elsewhere."

The three waiters concerned were among casual workers regularly called on in preference

to others to wait at banquets at the company's Grosvenor House Hotel. They claimed that as they were expected to attend when called for functions, and the amount of work was extensive and repetitive, they were entitled to "employee" status.

The tribunal allowed an appeal by the three, backed by the union, against a London industrial tribunal decision blocking their claims on a preliminary legal point.

The industrial tribunal had held that the waiters were in business on their own account as independent contractors and were not entitled to redress under employment protection legislation.

Noise expert troubled by tattoo

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh

A neighbour of Miss Elizabeth Webster, who is seeking a court order effectively banning the Edinburgh military tattoo, told the Court of Session yesterday that his household was reduced to silence. When spectators began stamping their feet in time to music at the event.

Mr Richard Matthews, the managing director of Andrew Antennas, a communications company, said he had written a thesis on acoustics. He had installed double glazing at his flat in Ramsay Garden, overlooking Edinburgh Castle esplanade, but the noise penetrated

member of the gang following in the Renault.

The police said he was taken to an old barn smelling of grain and containing old office furniture. In there the gang demanded information about his business and threatened, punched and tortured him.

He finally woke up in the back of his own car which had been parked on the edge of the village of Newton.

Det. Chief Supt Len Bradley, head of Cambridge CID, said: "The man was missing for 11 hours. Just why the gang wanted information about his business is still a mystery."

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The BR report

Parker blames strikes for railways' £174m loss



British Rail would have broken even last year but for strikes, Sir Peter Parker, chairman of BR, said yesterday in his last annual report.

"Without the strikes, we would have doubled last year's operating surplus and, after paying interest, broken even in spite of the slump. As it was, the strikes cost us £170m and the group result was a loss, after interest, of £147m."

Sir Peter, who is due to retire in the autumn, said 1982 would prove a turning point in modernising the rail business. "It was a hard year for British Rail, unnecessarily hard on our customers, but BR has come out stronger than it went in."

The report shows that before interest, rail businesses lost £97.8m, offset by a £10.5m profit on non-rail businesses like Sealink and property.

Interest, partly offset by extraordinary items, boosted that £97.8m operating loss to £156.2m, which after transfers to reserves became a total loss of £173.6m.

But the costly strikes should not eclipse the favourable factors, Sir Peter said. There was "a momentum of change" which cut the railways' cost structure during 1982, with positive long-term benefits.

"We are still running the same size network, but since mid-1981 we have cut our costs by £250m. "We have fewer locomotives, fewer coaches, fewer wagons, fewer people - 27,000 off the payroll in two years. Railway working expenses were cut by £80m, in 1982. "And now we have a clear-cut strategy for change that should continue to improve our performance still further."

After two years of "relentless negotiations", Sir Peter said there was now agreement on fundamental changes like one-man operation of the new electric trains from London St Pancras, and flexible rosters.

For the first time, the annual report includes a section on

confident than ever that BR can deliver.

Of the Serpell review on railway finances, Sir Peter called for clearer objectives from government, together with a new form of "contract" defining scale and quality of service. He also urged an immediate start on electrification.

The annual report said that operating surpluses before interest were recorded by freight (nearly £10m and parcels £8m).

BR's Sealink subsidiary turned in a £2.9m operating surplus before interest, an improvement of £3.6m over 1981, and a significant improvement in its financial performance is confidently expected this year.

"This anticipated upturn in the company's performance coincides with the board's plan to achieve the privatisation of Sealink as an entity in 1983," the report said.

Sir Peter commented: "As far as the individual customer is concerned, I remain convinced that the future of the railway is as much to do with the quality of our products and services as it is to do with finance and politics."

"Punctual, regular trains, sparkling clean, coming into stations welcomingly bright, manned by staff both well informed and informative - that is what matters, and for that we continue to strive, only aware of the contrast between good and bad, new and old, in the system".

Management reorganisation into market-oriented business sectors was "perhaps the biggest change since nationalisation" and will transform public understanding of the railways, he said.

"We are a variety of sophisticated businesses, not an integrated hulk."

"Now, with the new scope for improvements that we have won in 1982, we can surely build a better railway on these strengths and however demanding the objectives for the future railway. I am more

than ever that BR can deliver.

BR engineering, with 12 workshops, "exceeded its 1982 financial targets", with a 3,550, nearly 11 per cent cut in manpower, combined with a further £14m saving in overheads and a £27m reduction in stock levels.

The transport board contributed a record £77.8m to British Rail's corporate finances, bringing its total contribution since 1970 to more than £500m.

Investment spending was £161m below the permitted ceiling for 1981, at £269m, because of cash limit constraints.

During 1982, 415 miles of track were renewed against a 610-mile programme. The rail strike cost an estimated £150m in passenger revenue, although receipts at £933m were down less than 10 per cent in 1981. Passenger miles at 17bn were down 11 per cent.

British Railways Board Annual Report and Accounts (Stationery Office, £3.50).

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EEC BUDGET

The Government was confident it would achieve a settlement to the problem of Britain's 1983 contribution to the EEC budget that would be satisfactory to the Commons and the British people. Mr Francis Pym, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during question time.

He could not say whether agreement would be achieved at the European Council meeting in Brussels on June 6 and 7, but this was what the Government wanted to see and what its European partners said they wished to see.

Mr Joan Evans (Abertillery, Lab) for the Opposition: As we come to the June election, although the budget contribution is to be discussed at Stuttgart on June 6 and 7, there will be no agreement of a permanent solution. Will he confirm that since

the market it has cost us £6.000m, and as a nation, £1m for every day?

Mr Pym: Nobody doubts that there will be anything like agreement on a long-term solution at Stuttgart. Everybody realises it is going to take a number of months. Progress has already been made. The debate has only just started; it has scarcely begun. Everyone recognises it will take some time.

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Is it proper for costs, in this case twice as great as the legal limit for any candidate - £1,000 - to be imposed on limits for Bristol East are £2,775 - for myself and other candidates - if political canvassing to be undertaken in the guise of polling?

Are newspapers exempt from election law if they call it polling?

Does this constitute a corrupt practice? The House had been precise and clear in protecting the democratic process by laying down its own rules under the Representation of the People Act with the legal limits of corruption ought to be?

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ELECTION JUNE 83 Why there are fewer marginals ● Bills that should survive ● Focus on Bristol East

How boundary changes have doubled the handicap for Labour

By Julian Haskins, Political Editor

The degree to which the Conservatives will benefit from changes in the electoral map is shown in detail in a guide to the new constituencies published today.

It shows that Labour has been twice handicapped by the boundary revision. These have given the Conservatives 21 extra seats and taken nine from Labour, as already noted, but they have also reduced the number of potential gains for the challenger party by reducing the number of potential gains for the challenger party by reducing the number of marginal and highly marginal seats.

A uniform swing across the country from Conservative to Labour of 2.5 per cent would result in 30 seats being gained by Labour, rather than the 37 it would have gained on existing boundaries. A 5 per cent will yield only 69 instead of 74 gains.

The calculations are based on a comprehensive joint undertaken by a working party of political academics and broadcasters from the BBC and Independent Television News.

They have surveyed the

pattern of voting at local elections in every ward of the United Kingdom and have constructed a model, originally devised by Mr Paul McKeon of ITN, of how the present House of Commons would have been constituted if, in 1979, it had been elected on the new boundaries.

Tables show how each new constituency has been built up and each old one dispersed.

For the Conservatives the special value of the model is that it allocates each new seat to the party which would have been in possession and so they can, on election night, record the familiar flow of gains and losses.

It shows precisely the scale of the task ahead of Labour. As Professor Ivor Crewe, of Essex University, points out in its introduction, the Conservatives would, in 1979, have had an overall majority of 71 on the new boundaries, instead of 44, and a majority over Labour of 101 instead of 71.

In 1979 the Conservatives led Labour by 7 per cent of the national vote. If on June 9 there is a national swing of 3.5 per cent from Conservative to

The BBC/ITN Guide to the New Parliamentary Constituencies (Parliamentary Research Service, £8 Lincoln Green, Chichester, West Sussex: £25)

Table 1: How swings of votes will translate into seats

Lab to C %	C	Lab	Lib	SNP/PC	Overall majority	Maj over narrowest party
7.0	455	187	5	5	C261	C288
6.0	445	177	5	5	C244	C288
5.0%	418	204	5	5	C187	C214
4.0	407	215	5	5	C165	C192
3.0	398	224	5	5	C147	C174
2.0	384	235	5	5	C119	C149
1.0	376	243	5	5	C103	C133
no swing	360	259	5	4	C 71	C101
C to Lab						
1.0	348	269	10	5	C47	C79
2.0	338	279	10	5	C27	C59
3.0	326	290	10	5	C 3	C38
4.0	307	309	10	5	no party	Lab 2
5.0	296	320	10	5	no party	Lab 24
6.0	278	335	13	6	Lab 21	Lab 57
7.0	269	344	13	6	Lab 39	Lab 75

Changes of party control in a seat since 1979 through a by-election or defection have been ignored.

Table 2: The hurdles Labour must clear

	Required turnover of seats	Required swing from C to Lab %	Required swing from C to 2nd party in seat*
C loses secure overall majority (is under 25)	C loses 24 seats	2.2	2.2
C loses bare overall majority	C loses 36 seats	3.3	2.8
Lab becomes single largest party	Lab gains 50 seats from C	4.0	4.0
Lab obtains bare overall majority	Lab gains 66 seats	5.4	5.4
Lab obtains secure overall majority (is over 25)	Lab gains 79 seats	6.1	6.1

Changes of party control in a seat since 1979 through a by-election or defection have been ignored.

Table 3: How an Alliance advance would hurt the Conservatives (assuming votes taken equally from Labour and Tories)

Election result (seats)			Crash over tab		
SDP/Lib % share of vote	C	Lab	Lib/SDP	Others	Overall Maj over tab
18	355	258	18	24	C81 +97
20	363	268	14	25	C57 +95
22	350	257	21	26	C43 +98
24	346	257	21	26	C43 +98
25	339	256	22	28	C28 +93
26	334	256	24	26	C19 +78
28	322	258	46	25	none +66
32	313	255	55	27	none +58
34	295	251	77	27	none +44
36	272	237	114	27	none +25

* Includes the Speaker.

Benn's tough task

Constituency profile: Bristol East

Mr Wedgwood Benn, having come through his first battle by securing a new constituency, at the second attempt, now faces an even tougher task - winning the marginal seat. He has conceded that it will require extremely hard work to gain a thirteen-seat parliamentary victory.

Mr Benn, aged 58 and a Bristol MP for 32 years, believes Bristol East ought to return a Labour MP in good times and bad, but that was true a decade ago it may not be so now.

Profile of Bristol East

1981 % Own Occ 55
1981 % Loc Auth 4
1981 % Black/Asian 4
1981 % Mid of Prof 46
1981 % Poor man 12
1982 % electorate 68,876
1979 % BBC/ITN national result 56.876
Lab result 4,304

Key: % Owner Occupier property owned their own home; % Local Authority property from New Towns; % Black/Asian population from New Towns; % Mid of Professions; % Poor man; % electorate; % BBC/ITN national result. Calculation of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituency by John BBC/ITN study team.

One of his biggest difficulties could be the upward social mobility of the local population. About 66 per cent of the electorate are owner-occupiers and only 25 per cent are local authority tenants. Many of the Edwardian terraced houses have been bought by first-time buyers paying between £14,000 and £20,000, and whose political allegiances may well differ from those of their parents.

Mr Jonathan Setton

Insurance net for candidates

By Frances Gibbs
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Election candidates can protect themselves from legal actions under the Representation of the People Act, 1983, under a new kind of insurance policy launched today.

For £55 candidates can take out insurance against the costs of defending charges of illegal practices in their election expenses, which can lead to the loss of a seat and a ban on being elected for five years.

The policy, details of which are being sent to an estimated 2,500 prospective candidates, has been devised in the wake of the case of Mr Adrian Slade, a Liberal candidate in the local council elections in Richmond in 1981.

Because of an action mounted by his unsuccessful Conservative opponent, Mr Slade and his agent were faced with a legal bill of almost £50,000. Their offence was to have overspent their election budget by £66 and to have wrongly completed their return of election expenses.

Table 3 shows equally vividly the height of the fence which the SDP/Liberal Alliance would have to clear to make its presence felt in the new boundaries.

The BBC/ITN Guide to the New Parliamentary Constituencies (Parliamentary Research Service, £8 Lincoln Green, Chichester, West Sussex: £25)



Mr Adrian Slade: Warning to others.

as his own, he costs are still in dispute.

Mr Brian Raincock, managing director of Legal Benefits, which has launched the scheme, said: "Candidates and their agents, particularly in marginal seats, are extremely vulnerable to legal actions over what might

be a tiny mistake. Yet the penalty for the individual is extremely heavy."

Under the policy, which is being recommended by Conservatives and the Social Democratic Party, candidates and their agents are covered for any one claim within two years for up to £50,000.

Bills expected to beat the deadline

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Legislation giving more security to residents in mobile homes, providing for some awards; the Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill; the County Courts (Penalty for Contempt) Bill; the Importation of Milk Bill; the Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill; the Copyright (Amendment) Bill; the Charities Bill; the Solvent Abuse (Scotland) Bill; the Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill; the Agricultural Holdings (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill; the Diseases of Fish Bill; the Prohibition of Female Ascension before the dissolution tomorrow, with the tacit cooperation of the Opposition.

The Mobile Homes Bill establishes a duty on site owners to offer agreements to occupiers to enforce the duty and challenge the terms of the agreements offered.

The National Heritage Bill establishes boards of trustees of the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Science Museum, the Armories and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London.

The other legislation which will be saved is The Dentists Bill, which increases the number of members elected by dentists to the General Dental Council; the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Bill; the Musical

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Government battered in Transvaal by-elections as electorate shifts right

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

To the relief of the South African Government, Mr Fanie Botha, the Minister of Manpower and one of the most senior reformist figures in the Cabinet, managed to hang on to his Soutpansberg constituency in the north of Transvaal in Tuesday's by-election in a straight fight with Mr Tom Langley of the extreme right-wing Conservative Party. It was one of four crucial by-elections held on Tuesday, all in Transvaal.

The Conservative Party was formed only a little over a year ago, when Dr Andries Treurnicht, a former Cabinet minister and 16 other Government MPs were expelled from the ruling National Party.

Mr Botha had a narrow escape, winning by a majority of only 621 votes compared with the majority of 3,467 he had at the last general election in 1981 over two smaller right-wing groups. One of these has since merged with the Conservatives. The other, the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP), agreed not to field a candidate this time. The Nationalists' share of the vote slumped to 52.7 per cent from 63.4 per cent in 1981.

The far-right's biggest coup was Dr Treurnicht's sweeping victory in the Waterberg constituency, where the Conservatives garnered 46.9 per cent of the vote, compared with the Nationalists' 31.4 per cent. The HNP, which is an earlier offshoot of the National Party and even more fanatically racist than the Conservatives, picked up the remainder.

In 1981 Dr Treurnicht half Waterberg for the Government with 58.1 per cent of the votes cast. The dramatic slump in the Government's position clearly owes a good deal to the loyalty many voters felt to Dr Treurnicht personally. Had the Waterberg swing been repeated in Soutpansberg, Mr Botha would have lost.

The Government regained the affluent, upper middle-class Waterkloof constituency in Pretoria, which had been



Andries Treurnicht: A sweeping victory

occupied by Mr Langley for the Conservatives until he resigned to fight Mr Botha in the Soutpansberg, fairly comfortably holding off a challenge from the Liberal Progressive Federal Party (LPFP).

Both the Nationalists and the Progressives saw their share of the poll decline by just under 14 per cent, with the Conservatives taking 19 per cent of the votes in this supposedly "liberal" Afrikaner constituency.

The fourth by-election was held in the gold-mining constituency of Carletonville to the south-west of Johannesburg to fill a vacant seat on the Transvaal Provincial Council. The turnout here was much lower than the 78 to 80 per cent recorded elsewhere. The National Party held the seat with a reduced majority, but its 45.1 per cent share of the poll was exceeded by the 48.1 per cent cast for the Conservatives and HNP candidates combined.

The indifference to the election campaign, the constitutional reforms were denounced by far-right parties as heralding the end of undiluted white supremacy, while the Liberal Progressive Federal Party, at present the main opposition, castigated them as cosmetic and fraudulent.

The main blow to the Government is the psychological one of suffering in Waterberg its first loss of a parliamentary seat to a party to its right since it came to power in 1948.

Nkomo daughter takes drugs overdose

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

A daughter of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader in exile in Britain, attempted suicide at an end by taking a drug overdose.

Mrs Johanna Nkomo, wife of Mr Nkomo and mother of Thandwe, aged 27, said by telephone from Bulawayo that her daughter had tried to kill herself because she was distraught over the continuing detention without trial of her husband, Mr John Ndlovu.

For the past few weeks, Mrs Nkomo said, her daughter was "always crying, refusing to eat". Last Saturday, she added, Thandwe was rushed to Bulawayo central hospital after a crying fit and the discovery in her bedroom of an empty bottle of sleeping tablets.

Mrs Nkomo said her daughter had not been allowed to see Mr Ndlovu in detention. The

The girl asks: "Granny what is a vote?" Otherwise the paper did not devote a single line to coverage of the elections.

The Government has been badly wounded, but not as grievously as it at one time feared, by the results of the four by-elections which show a continuing, strong, rightward shift in the country's all-white politics.

The by-elections are seen here as a mini-plesis on the Government's controversial constitutional reforms, which had their first reading in the House of Assembly in Cape Town last week. The Government has promised to submit them to a full-scale white referendum before they are implemented.

The Government's aim is to set up a new, racially segregated, tri-cameral Parliament for the country's 4.6 million whites, 2.7 mixed-race Coloureds and 350,000 Indians, but to retain overall control in white hands through a complex veto mechanism and a powerful executive presidency that would replace the present Westminster-type constitutional model.

Although he put a bold face on the results, Mr P W Botha, the Prime Minister and leader of the National Party, acknowledged that the Government's once monolithic Afrikaner base was now deeply fissured. He promised to make an "in-depth study of the deep division of the voters" and to evaluate thoroughly the implications.

Throughout the election campaign, the constitutional reforms were denounced by far-right parties as heralding the end of undiluted white supremacy, while the Liberal Progressive Federal Party, at present the main opposition, castigated them as cosmetic and fraudulent.

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Lusaka court told of beatings in death cells

Lusaka (AFP) — Six men condemned to death for treason have told a Zambian court that they are being beaten, denied timely medical care and fed badly by warders.

The six attended on Tuesday a hearing of their petition for relief before the Lusaka High Court.

The men include three Zambians: Mr Edward Shambawa, former High Court Commissioner; Mr Valentine Musakanja, former governor of the central Bank and Mr Goodwin Mumba, former manager of a finance company, and three Zaireans.

They, as well as a fourth Zairean, were sentenced to hang in January after a trial lasting nearly two years in which the prosecution said they were involved in a plot to overthrow President Kaunda in 1980.



£780m olive-branch to Britain

From Ian Murray, Brussels

New job-creating policies for the European Community would be given an extra £780m, according to the preliminary draft budget for 1984 put forward yesterday by the Commission. But spending that extra amount of money, mainly to try to satisfy British demands, would all but bankrupt the EEC.

The budget is very careful to ignore any mention of Britain, though it is blatantly obvious that meeting British grievances has been a big factor in drawing up the figures.

In an explanatory note to the budget, the Commission says that "supplementary measures are no longer an appropriate way of dealing with the problem. Rather there needs to be a special reinforcement of Community policies of particular interest to the United Kingdom."

At a lunch with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, explained in detail proposals for a new "Bretton Woods" conference to reform the international monetary system. He said he hoped the matter would be raised at the Williamsburg summit due to take place in the United States shortly.

The three most important

This has meant substantial increases are proposed for so-called "new policies", which would largely be administered through the social and regional funds.

The Commission would expect that the bulk of this extra money would go to Britain, disguised as a Community policy covering a particular project designated by the Council of Ministers.

This is a device to placate the European Parliament, which last year threw out a supplementary budget for a British rebate on the ground that this was not money spent on the Community.

It means the Council of Ministers has now been passed the buck and must decide how much money Britain should receive for 1983, and the Council is notoriously slow to agree on this kind of package.

Muldoon backs monetary reform

By Richard Dowden

London yesterday, Mr Muldoon criticized press coverage of the recent tour of New Zealand by the Prince and Princess of Wales, in particular a report in *The Sun* and *The Times* which claimed he was using the royal tour for his own political purposes.

He called one journalist who had accused him of trying to steal the limelight a "ratbag" and said he had made up the story.

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Doubts in Israel

Peres pours scorn on Lebanon pact

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, launched yesterday a scathing attack on the terms of the recently negotiated troop withdrawal agreement with Lebanon and called on the Begin Government to set a firm deadline for Syrian compliance with the scheme.

Speaking on a day when it was announced that five more Israeli soldiers were sentenced to up to 35 days imprisonment for refusing to serve in Lebanon, Mr Peres suggested June 6, first anniversary of the war, as the deadline for Syrian acquiescence.

If it was not forthcoming, he demanded that Israel should withdraw its men to "areas vital to its security".

Mr Peres was replying to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, who sought Knesset approval for the pact. A final vote is to be taken on Monday.

It became clear during the debate that, as well as Labour opposition, the Government will also face defections from the extreme right-wing Tzahal Party.

Mr Shamir said the security arrangements planned for south Lebanon were worse than those in force before "Operation Peace in Galilee", of which after 335 days there was no end in sight.

Israeli scepticism about the agreement with Lebanon has not been restricted to politicians. There have been a number of attacks in the press, including a biting satirical article in the leading newspaper *Haaretz*.

He explained that suspension would give Israel freedom to act as it sees fit and according

Stern to hand over fake diaries

Bona (Reuter) — Stern, the West German magazine, said yesterday that it would hand over the fake Hitler diaries to a Hamburg public prosecutor this week.

Herr Günter Witte, the public prosecutor said that the authorities were investigating the man calling himself either Konrad Fischer or Konrad Kujau, who was named as the supplier of the diaries by Herr Gerd Heidenstaen, the Stern journalist. Herr Heidenstaen has been dismissed and faced a fraud suit from his former employer.

Herr Fischer/Kujau has disappeared. A Stuttgart prosecutor went to his barricaded corner shop, called Militaria, yesterday but he said he had no search of arrest warrant.

Nun refuses to obey Vatican

Lansing, Michigan (AP) — The nun who heads Michigan's welfare department has decided to stay in her job, despite Vatican pressure on her to resign because the department pays for abortions.

Sister Agnes Mary Mansour said she had instead requested "with deep regret" a dispensation from her vows as a Sister of Mercy.

Topless protest at 'Macbeth'

Memphis, Tennessee (AP) — About 20 men and women stripped to the waist and sat quietly during a nude scene in the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Macbeth* in a protest over an ordinance banning topless dancing.

One of the protesters said he organized the demonstration when he learnt that one of the witches in *Macbeth* would dance nude but not arrested. None of the protesters was arrested.

L-driver dies

Lohr, West Germany (AP) — A 17-year-old girl, who had just passed her driving test, died in a head-on crash that also killed three of her friends and seriously injured two other people. She was not due to receive her licence until her eighteenth birthday.

Café blaze

Paris (AP) — Fire investigators are attempting to find the cause of a blaze that forced the evacuation of 300 diners at the Café de la Paix. There were no injuries but the restaurant will be closed for some days.

Mussolini link

Como (AP) — Davide Barbieri, the resistance fighter who foiled Mussolini's attempted escape from Italy in 1945, has died here, aged 86. Barbieri and his men blocked a road, forcing the German convoy escorting Mussolini to stop and leading to the dictator's arrest.

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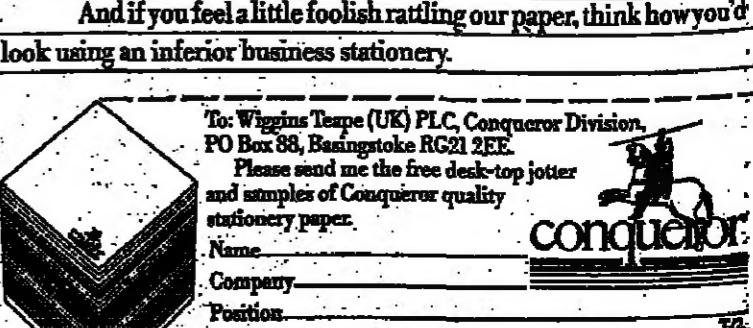
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Labour Party official had link with KGB man, Hawke says

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, last night named Mr David Combe, the former National Secretary of the Australian Labour Party, as having links with Mr Valeriy Ivanov, a First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra, who was expelled from Australia on April 22 as an agent of the KGB, the Soviet intelligence service. The revelation has shaken the new Labour Government.

The Prime Minister said that the deliberate cultivation by Mr Ivanov of the relationship with Mr Combe, now a lobbyist in Canberra, and the stage that it had reached on Labour's assumption to office was one of the reasons, but not the only one, which led to the Government's decision to expel Mr Ivanov.

Mr Combe spent much of yesterday afternoon with Mr Gareth Evans, the Federal Attorney-General, and officers of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO), including the Director-General. In those discussions Mr Combe gave details of his professional activities as a lobbyist and his past relationships with the Soviet Union and the Soviet Embassy.

Earlier, it had been revealed that Mr Hawke had banned Labour ministers from having any contact with Mr Combe in his capacity as a lobbyist. Mr

Mr Valeriy Ivanov: Expelled from Australia last month. Combe was National Secretary of the Labour Party for eight years until his retirement in 1981, since when he has become one of Canberra's best-known lobbyists.

Demand for Mr Combe's services have increased sharply since the election of the Labour Government in March. He is one of the few lobbyists in Canberra with an intimate knowledge of how the Labour Government works and the personalities involved.

The 'disappeared ones'

Junta fails to still storm of protest

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

If events over the past 10 days are anything to go by, the Argentine military Junta's attempt to put an end to the issue of the "disappeared ones" has failed.

On April 29 the junta issued its "final document on the war against subversion and terrorism" in the 1970s, which proclaimed that the thousands of persons who disappeared should be considered dead "for all legal and administrative purposes".

The document was widely criticized by Argentine human rights organizations, political parties, the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy and public opinion in general. Internationally, there were protests from Italy, France and Spain, whose nationals are among the missing, as well as from the EEC. The Pope and Señor Javier Pérez Del Cuaré, the United Nations Secretary-General, have made critical comments.

It is clear that military officers expected a wave of protest, but hoped that it would eventually, like a passing storm, blow over. This is not happening.

Developments on last Monday are symptomatic. General Cristino Nicolaides, the Army Commander, ordered the arrest of retired Colonel Bernardo José Menéndez, for speaking out against the junta's document. Colonel Menéndez, who was Deputy Interior Minister during the presidency of General Leopoldo Galtieri, has joined the Peronist Party since he stood down from active service.

He had said that the junta "cannot automatically close that tremendous period in Argentine contemporary history". He added that "justice will be done" in the cases of those who committed excesses in the counter-insurgency campaign. The colonel also said that the "definitive solution" to the issue of the "disappeared ones" lay in the hands of the next elected administration.

In a parallel development, Judge Fernando Zavalía has ordered the three commanders-in-chief, who make up the ruling military junta, to supply "all information in their possession" on the abduction and murder of Elena Holmberg. Señora Holmberg, a senior

Rabbi Marshall Meyer has described the junta's document as "a profanation of God's name".

Uganda lifts deadline on compensation

By Richard Dowden

The Uganda Government has lifted the time limit on claims for compensation for property expropriated by President Amin in 1972.

An Act passed by the Uganda Parliament in March this year set a 90-day time limit on the claims and the British Government asked that the deadline should be extended. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said in a written reply in the House of Commons yesterday that the Foreign Office would be passing on this news to the claimants by circular letter.

Meanwhile, Mr Shafiq Arain, the Uganda High Commissioner in London, has denied there will be any discrimination between Asian and non-Asian claimants. "All applications will be considered by one committee, whether they are from white or brown Britons, on the basis of absolute equality," he said.

The recent Ugandan legis-

Mr Hawke said last night that the Government believed Mr Combe had committed no criminal offence and that there was no foundation for any allegations that he was a Soviet spy. The statement in Parliament came after demands from the opposition that the Government name the senior Labour Party person alleged to have had links with Mr Ivanov.

The Federal Cabinet was first told on April 26 in Adelaide, and the full ministry on May 2, that it was not appropriate for them to continue associating with Mr Combe as a lobbyist. The reason given was that while ministers should be accessible it was not appropriate that a former party official, such as Mr Combe, should have any special advantages as a result of his previous status.

The decision was made then, and endorsed without question by both the Cabinet and the ministry, that Mr Combe should not have lobby relations with any ministers. Yesterday Mr Hawke made it clear that there was another consideration underlying that recommendation that was not raised at the two meetings but was discussed with the Cabinet subcommittee on national and international security. The subcommittee had considered the association between Mr Combe and Mr Ivanov.

The

lawyers (AP) - A strike by lawyers here forced the postponement yesterday of the trial of five chemical company executives involved in Italy's worst environmental accident. Judge Cesare Di Nanzio announced the postponement and set trial session for June 17. The five are charged with criminal negligence for the incident that sprayed highly toxic dioxin over the town of Seveso, near Milan, in 1976.

About 100 people wearing gas masks and white overalls (shown above) marched outside the courthouse carrying mock drums of dioxin. It was one of a series of recent protests in Europe by environmental groups demanding to know the whereabouts of dioxin wastes shipped from the plant.

The lawyers called the strike to press the Government to provide more court staff to speed up proceedings.

The defendants - two Swiss, two West Germans and an Italian - were absent at the opening session on April 18 and did not show up in court yesterday either.

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Zia testing chances for Afghan peace

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

Mr Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, leaves here on Sunday for Peking to begin his rounds of talks with the governments of the five permanent members of the Security Council on the indirect negotiations between Islamabad and Kabul on Afghanistan under United Nations auspices.

It was announced here that the minister would be visiting Peking on Sunday and Monday and then go on to London, Paris, Washington and Moscow in the next few weeks. He will visit Saudi Arabia as well as meet Señor Pérez de Cuellar, United Nations Secretary-General, in New York.

The announcement said that Mr Yaqub Khan's visits would be in connexion with the Geneva talks on Afghanistan, the next round of which is due to begin on June 16.

General Zia ul-Haq, Paki-

stan's military ruler, has stated

that he believed that involve-

ment of the governments of the

permanent members of the

Security Council would be

necessary for a lasting solution

of the Afghan issue.

Although General Zia said

recently that unduly high hopes

of an early settlement should

not be attached to the current

Geneva talks, diplomatic and

political circles here regard the

Foreign Minister's tour as

crucial to the coming session.

Workers seize university in Accra

ACCRA (AFP) - Members of the Accra-Tema Workers' Defence Committee have occupied Ghana University and intend turning its halls and residences into flats for the next three years.

The workers ejected students from the campus at Legon, on the capital's suburbs. They said "students who really want to study might have sober reflection on national issues" during the proposed three-year occupation.

The workers moved in after violent undergraduate demonstrations in the streets of the capital last Friday. They also raided the offices of the state-owned newspaper, *The People's Daily Graphic* and *Ghanian Times*. Many students were injured.

Apparently there were more serious clashes last week at the Science and Technology University at Kumasi to the north and at Cape Coast University east of here.

The severity of the latest budget proposals - many consumer goods have been increased in price between 100 and 300 per cent - and Ghana's worsening economic situation were at the centre of the student protests.

The workers' committee issued a statement after the occupation at Legon claiming that the student body had "allowed themselves to be used by reactionary forces against the interest of the people".

Red Cross issues plea to world on abuse of Gulf war prisoners

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

After months of unavailing confidential protests to Iran and Iraq regarding brutal treatment and killings of war prisoners, the International Committee of the Red Cross yesterday made public its latest appeal to the two governments, and to the 153 other countries that are parties to the Geneva Conventions.

Its initial private protests to the Gulf belligerents were followed by the visit to Teheran and Baghdad of a senior Red Cross official. He returned to Geneva headquarters with no more than a repetition of earlier assurances already shown to be without substance.

The ICRC says its delegates in both countries have been faced with "grave and repeated violations of international humanitarian law", witnessed by themselves in person or by reliable sources. These include summary execution of prisoners, abandoning of enemy wounded on the battlefield, and indiscriminate bombardment of towns and villages.

It describes Iran's violations of the conventions as "all the more serious, considering the large number of (Iraqi) prisoners" 45,000-50,000, to most of whom the ICRC no longer has access. Using "continuous delaying tactics", the Iranian authorities have raised obstacles and restrictions, refusing to

allow ICRC delegates to visit some camps.

In addition, Iraqi prisoners are subjected - increasingly since September - to ideological and political pressures, contrary to the conventions, including intimidation, humiliation and forced participation in demonstrations against their own Government. Incidents at some camps have led to deaths and injuries.

In Iraq, the ICRC registered 6,800 Iranian prisoners of war by the beginning of March who, after initial difficulties, have been permitted to correspond with their families, as stipulated in the conventions, and receive visits from its delegates.

But the Red Cross is convinced that other Iranian prisoners - it has the names of several hundred - have been concealed from it since the war started two and a half years ago and are held in places to which delegates do not have access.

So far, the statement adds, only a few dozen such prisoners have been returned to the regular prisoner of war camps in Iraq and registered. Normally, there has been ill treatment of prisoners in those camps and disorders have been quelled by force.

Both countries so far have repatriated only a few of the seriously wounded who, under the conventions, should be exchanged between warring parties. In violation of the

conventions also, the Iraqi Army has moved "tens of thousands" of Iranian civilians into Iraqi territory.

The ICRC says its appeal to all countries party to the conventions has been issued in the hope they can induce Iran and Iraq to ensure international humanitarian law is applied and violations ended. In particular, it urges that, as provided for in the conventions, protecting powers be appointed to represent the belligerents' interests in each other's territory.

It hopes the appeal will be heeded and the importance of its mission and the rule of law recognized "in the transcending interest of humanity and as a step to the restoration of peace".

In the context of ICRC operations generally, a public appeal is in the nature of a last resort. Delegates have clearly been appalled by the ferocity shown by both sides from time to time during the hostilities.

Bogus degrees

Charlotte, North Carolina (AP) - FBI agents seized records from Arizona to Florida at the climax of a three-year investigation into "diploma mills" in eight states that sold false university degrees to "hundreds of people in every profession". They said indictments could follow against 38 mail-order colleges.



Tearful reunion: After 35 years Mr Cizhixi, aged 49, a Chinese peasant (left) meets former Marine Roy Sibit of Ohio, on his arrival in San Francisco. Mr Sibit befriended him "like a father" in war-torn China when he was a street urchin.

Record fire damages enrich lawyers

From Christopher Thomas, New York

A \$140m (£90m) damages settlement, the biggest in US legal history, has been agreed in a lawsuit resulting from a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas in 1980 in which 84 people died.

The settlement, to be met by the hotel and other defendants, will make a panel of 10 lawyers rich overnight because the 1,357 claimants they represent agreed at the outset to pay a fee of 5 per cent of the

final award. Negotiations are continuing with 10 other claimants but they are expected to settle soon. Still more money is likely to be forthcoming when a lawsuit against 26 more defendants is heard.

Mr John Cummings, liaison counsel for the legal panel and a Las Vegas lawyer specializing in disaster cases, said that his personal fee was "almost adequate". MGM's portion of the damages is \$75m. The second largest payment of \$10.5m will be made by a company that installed the heating and air conditioning. An electrical contractor will pay \$10m.

Most of the remaining defendants are manufacturers of plastic products that burnt and emitted toxic gases that Mr Cummings said caused all 84 deaths. Another 700 people were injured in the fire.

MGM's portion of the damages is \$75m. The second largest payment of \$10.5m will be made by a company that installed the heating and air conditioning. An electrical contractor will pay \$10m.

United Nations agencies were fully prepared to participate in efforts to overcome the effects of the spill from an oil-drilling platform in the area damaged in the Iran-Iraq war.

Dr Tolba said Unep was facing problems because pledges of financial support had fallen well short of expectations. The governing council will have to accept a scaling down of its operations, he said.

Instead of the budgeted \$85m (£66m) expected to become available to Unep in 1984 and 1985, only \$65m (£43m) will materialize if contributions continue at the present rate.

Without lead: The average British motorist could expect to pay about £45 more a year to run a car after 1985 as the price of driving on lead-free petrol.

This was the figure calculated for a special conference on lead in petrol called by the European Environmental Bureau and the European Consumer Union Bureau which ended in Brussels yesterday, Ian Murray writes.

A report produced by Mrs Lesley Yeoman, of the British Consumer Association, showed that a lead-free engine would add about £50 to the price of a car.

Paris seeks 30bn-franc EEC oil loan

From Diana Geddes
Paris

M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, has confirmed that France is seeking a loan from the EEC, believed to be nearly 30 billion francs (\$3.7 billion). It is designed to strengthen its foreign reserves, severely depleted by both the Government's efforts to defend the franc on the foreign exchange markets and by France's huge foreign trade deficit.

It is the third time in the past six months that the Government has sought multi-billion dollar foreign loans. It is likely to be granted and it will bring France's estimated gross foreign debt to more than \$50 billion (£31 billion), double the level when the Socialists came to power two years ago.

France raised a \$4 billion loan on international markets last November, and a further loan from Saudi Arabia at the beginning of this year, which was believed to be between \$2 billion and \$4 billion.

The Government has applied for loan from the EEC "oil facility", which was set up in 1975 after the first oil shock, to help member states with severe balance of payments difficulties. One of the conditions for such a loan is that the borrower give assurances to the EEC that the necessary measures will be taken to correct its trade imbalance.

Distasteful though it may be for the French Government to have to submit its economic policies for review by its European partners, it is considered less humiliating than having to obey the IMF, which an international loan would have been likely to entail. The EEC Finance Ministers are expected to approve the loan at their meeting on May 16.

In the seven weeks since the franc was devalued, the Bank of France has restored to its foreign reserves more than 50 billion francs which it is believed to have spent in defence of the French currency in the months leading up to the realignment of the European Monetary System in March.

The franc is now holding up well against the other EMS currencies, but a new attack could come at any time, particularly if the latest austerity measures do not appear to be bearing fruit quickly enough. The Government wishes to be better prepared this time. It does not want to have to seek a further foreign loan when the franc is weak and when such a move would only aggravate speculative pressures.

UN asks for cash to halt march of deserts

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

The world's developed nations were accused here yesterday of paying lip service to the protection of the environment while starving the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep) of the funds it needs to coordinate urgently needed work.

Dr Mostafa Tolba, Unep's executive director, who opened the annual meeting of the organizations governing council here yesterday, said: "Nations consistently affirm the crucial importance of the environmental mandate while keeping Unep and its partners in the environmental field hopelessly underfunded."

He accused governments of calling for environmental action plans and then allowing them to gather dust.

He said a world plan, for instance, to counter the spread of deserts was being treated as a "talking shop", while little is being done to raise the funds to carry out the action plan.

Dr Tolba expressed profound concern over the recent oil spill in the Gulf. "I appeal for the nations concerned to lay aside political differences so that the countries of the region can come together to deal with this potentially dangerous situation," he said.

Unep and other United Nations agencies were fully prepared to participate in efforts to overcome the effects of the spill from an oil-drilling platform in the area damaged in the Iran-Iraq war.

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Senate compromises on Salvador aid

From Melvin Ali, Washington

President Reagan is putting pressure on Nicaragua to try to reduce its means of financing its military build-up and support for left-wing causes in Central America.

But as the White House announced on Monday the President's decision to cut Nicaragua's sugar export quota to the United States, the Senate foreign relations committee adopted a compromise programme for military aid to El Salvador after rejecting the bigger increases sought by Mr Reagan.

The committee voted to cut \$70m (£56m) off the President's \$222.6m military aid request for the next two years for El Salvador, which is battling with left-wing guerrillas. It voted by 17-0 to limit all US military aid to El Salvador to \$76.3m each year.

If approved by the full Congress, the committee's action would also prohibit any increase in the present 55 American military trainers in El Salvador. Instead, it earmarked \$20m each year to allow most of the training of Salvadoran troops to be done in the United States.

Washington embargoed Cuban sugar imports more than 20 years ago, and Cuba now heavily depends on Moscow to buy its sugar crop.

• SAN SALVADOR: The Salvadorean Army said yesterday that government troops had recaptured the village of Cincuenta in north-east El Salvador, which had been captured by left-wing guerrillas on Saturday. The commander of the Tejutepeque unit said his forces had inflicted heavy casualties, but gave no figures.

Thousands back Ethiopia call-up with war songs

Addis Ababa (AFP) - Old warrior songs rang through Revolution Square here yesterday as tens of thousands of people demonstrated in support of last week's Government proclamation launching national military service.

The crowd, estimated to be one of the biggest of its kind in recent years, carried banners and chanted slogans backing the decree that legalized conscription in Ethiopia for the first time. Traditional battle songs were sung during the six-hour rally addressed by Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the head of state.

In his speech Colonel Mengistu recalled that weakened defences had caused disasters in past revolutions.

The ruling military council of Dergue, announced on May 3, that all citizens between the ages of 18 and 30 would be eligible for conscription.

Spain to send Nazi back to Netherlands

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

A former member of the Nazi SS, sentenced for crimes during the Second World War, is to be extradited to The Netherlands, a Madrid court decided yesterday.

Auke-Bert Pattist, born in Utrecht and now aged 62, has been living in Spain for more than 30 years, recently running a language school in Oviedo. He was arrested by the Spanish police last February.

The decision could have repercussions for other former Nazis who came to Franco's Spain after 1945.

The Dutch authorities originally asked for Mr Pattist's extradition under their treaty with Spain in 1979. He had been sentenced by a Dutch court to life imprisonment for joining the forces of an enemy of The Netherlands, and for detaining and ill-treating Dutch citizens, many of whom went to concentration camps.

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ICL

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SPECTRUM

The cleaning classes move upstairs

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

Back in the old days, when Mrs Dale was still telling her cleaning lady Mrs Maggs how worried she was about Jim, everyone knew where they were with the daily.

She was the jolly, dependable woman of an indeterminate age who wore a flowered apron crossing over at the front and tied her hair in a scarf to keep out the dust. She usually smoked, but never dropped so much ash that her carpet sweeper clogged. Even Tommy Handley new where he was with his, she always wanted to know if she could "do him now".

But in the last decade the daily help, the domestic, the char, or "the lady that does", as she has variously been called, has been transformed. She has been getting younger, and she wouldn't be seen dead in an apron. The modern lady wears a jogging suit that clings to her thighs, has well varnished finger nails, refuses to clean ovens, and can, on occasions, be a man.

Someone in jeans is now the answer to the age old quest for a household servant. Out-of-work actors, poets, philosophers, violinists, young mothers and debutante daughters are taking the place of the little old lady from round the corner who has been "coming in to do" for years.

The days of the twenny, the between maid who helped out in both the kitchen and the house; or even the all-purpose skivvy have gone. The cleaning operative is with us. As the sociologist Dr Paul Arthyre-Cough pointed out recently "The servant is emerging as our newest privileged class".

Certainly the new breed of cleaning lady or cleaning man would not disgrace a dinner party. On the night after the Grand National I was seated in North Wales beside a clean cut young man with delicate pronunciation and a lemon pullover who informed me just after the kipper paté that he "did 11 loos yesterday". It was not an exception, he did them every day. "A cleaner wouldn't be seen dead in an overall", he said confidentially. "They much prefer track suits, much sexier."

The employment agencies have already detected the change. "We find we tend to be getting younger women these days, aged about 30 or so" is how the famous Mrs Lines Agency in Kensington, which has been supplying residential and daily help for 90 years, explains it. "They come from a very nice class of home, and want to do a little part time work, perhaps to fit in with their children's schooling. But we only get about one man a week, and we can't often help him".

Men either set up on their own, or go to one of the agencies that specialize in supplying temporary domestic help.

Recession or not, the demand for domestic help has never faltered. Few people may be prepared to admit these days that they employ servants, but the desire to hire someone to vacuum the carpet, look after the children, dash round with a duster and do the ironing is as great as it has ever been. Enter the young mother and the resting actor. Even the once-fashionable Filipino maid and the smart Spanish girl have waned in the face of fiercer immigration control and the recession; while the jovial black lady is now rather more often found in hospitals or offices than in family homes.

The middle class family may no longer be able to afford a Margaret Powell, who started as a maid in Hove in 1925 at the age of 15 for £24 a year with half a day off a week, but in her place has come the au pair, the mother's help, and the different kind of cleaning lady. As the boundaries of the middle class have spread so the old distinctions have blurred. The new daily helps are not part of the old hierarchy. By the middle of the 1960s it was quite respectable for a daughter to take a cordon bleu cookery course and do a little light domestic work.

Admittedly the middle classes were not prepared to go the lengths of Lord Raglan's valet, and share the siege of Sebastopol so that they could continue to give him lunch, but they were quite prepared to become founder members of the black economy, undetected by the Inland Revenue, who received their wages in private and in cash.

Not that their pay is always astronomical. Not all that long ago the Dowager Countess of Radnor was still paying her housekeeper £2.50 a week in addition to her flat for 12 hours' work, but they have since parted. There is at least one judge in Chelsea who pays his cleaning lady only £1.50 an hour, even though the rate in London is now £2 and above; and the employer is expected to pay the costs of transport, food and to provide as much coffee (tea is very much the old style) as is necessary.

Indeed the change that has overtaken the domestic daily has also begun to spread to office cleaners as well. The older Mrs Mopps are being steadily replaced by younger men and women who are using more elaborate, and expensive, equipment. There is certainly at least one former London bus driver, for example, vacuuming the floors of a television company in the evenings, even if the rates of pay are not quite as generous as they are for a daily.

But the gentrification of the daily has not quite changed everything. As the lady in the Kensington agency puts it: "Our clients still want someone with experience in their home, who won't ruin their Chinese tapestry, and will be able to iron their silk underclothes perfectly".

But my cleaning lady has just bought herself a new cotton housecoat, which is positively covered in flowers, and buttons down the front. But she insists she isn't going to wear anything underneath it in the summer.

Geoffrey Wansell



Many hands of light labour, left to right: Bridget, Pauline, Annie, Ellen, and Jean

Good cleaners attract possessive adjectives like mirrors attract dust: ask any employer about a coveted daily and he or she will launch into a colourful description of "my Hilda", "my extra pair of hands", "my Mrs Fix-it"; I've even heard a horribly patronizing "my little treasure". Nodding wives at lunch may laugh at her funny ways, husbands may clench teeth as they fail to find some necessary article of clothing, washed and whisked away by the daily - but both would sooner bite out the tongue than criticize. For a good cleaning person, nowadays, is hard to find.

What dailies think about their employers, however, is a potentially more interesting subject, but one which, at a moment's thought will reveal, you are unlikely ever to discover. Rose would have died before spilling the beans about the Bellamys and though today's "help" thankfully comes in a less obsequious mould, it will be as unforthcoming. After all, discretion apart, who wants to risk losing a job as a result of talking to a journalist about an employers' foibles, fancies or habits

which, like odd socks, are probably best ignored.

However, since the inter-dependency - some would say symbiosis - exists, a good compromise seemed to be to let employers talk and dailies be photographed. This was when the problems started.

The first of a series of frantic second-thought phone calls came from a lady who had a great deal to say about her Danish au pair (keen to find photographic fame in *The Times*) before she realized that the Lorelei's visa had expired and they might both be "in hot water with the Home Office". The suave young solicitor who had raved about his Filipino regretted that she refused to be photographed. A third lady was more than happy to talk - anonymously - about "my delightful young black man" (she always prefers to employ men because she thinks it demeaning to ask another woman to get down on her knees and scrub). The young man agreed to be photographed - then rang at 11.15 pm to say that his parents had

said that if he was he would be leaving home. A charming actor who cleaned when resting thought his career prospects might be a little tarnished if he appeared as "home help rather than Henry V". Yet more dailies wanted their names changed to lessen the likelihood of a visit from the taxman or the DHSS; and middle-class housewives withdrew the offer of a friendly chat after husbands muttered about stamps.

And so it went on. I shall never quite be sure whether my own diminutive Chinese daily (or in my case "weekly") refused to be photographed through a natural and very real Oriental reserve, or whether she too feared officialdom. I do know that a brown, if not downright black, economy is as busy as work in the withdrawing rooms of Chelsea as it is in the kitchens of Camden Town - though not I hasten to add in any of the households mentioned here.

Judy Froshaug

Sue Farrell,
mother and student
(ANNIE)

"Annie's been with me for three years and comes three mornings a week. She's very reliable which is something I haven't had before; and she makes the place look clean. She has her own routine, does the entire house every week in her own way. At 12.30 she makes tea and biscuits and always calls me, or if I'm lying down offers to bring it to me. There's an underlying element of a mother/daughter relationship - she's one of the family, helps with the kids' birthday parties, baby sits. She's very excited about the pregnancy, going through it with me, very caring. She's already saying 'You can't lift that'; and she's had a dreadful job with the builders who've been here since July, covering the floor with great dirty footprints after she's Hoovered - and the dog hairs all over the carpet. I couldn't do as much as I do without her. Eventually what I feel I pay for is time to do other work. Annie loves cleaning and does it in a nice relaxed way. It would be a real chore without her. We've established a relationship that is good. If I were ill I know Terry could ring her up and ask her to help; we have a nice balance that I know from past experience is difficult to achieve. The great thing is to go out in the morning knowing that when you come home the carpet will look like a new-mown lawn. If she were to go I'd feel pretty desperate - I think I'd go to bed for six months and hide under the sheets. We'd all miss her terribly."

Louise Nicholson,
journalist and wife
(JEAN AND PAULINE)

"This is a five-storey Georgian house and when we moved in it hadn't been properly cleaned for years. I thought I could do it all myself but when I found myself scrubbing the kitchen floor at 2am I had to admit defeat. I advertised in a local news agent and interviewed a stream of people. I whacked them up to the top of the house and when they were panting at the third floor I knew they weren't going to manage the stairs, let alone clean. Then someone said you want Jean and Pauline - they've got nice broad shoulders... They work as a team. Apart from as they do the local hairdressers, a school church and a publisher. I take my instructions from them. I want them to be completely in charge and would rather go out and earn the money to pay for their help than do it myself. We have a very strong relationship, often have a cup of instant coffee together. I hear their troubles and tell them mine. They like to be in the know. And they absolutely adore Nick - when I went away for a month they looked after him beautifully. One day they came into my study and said 'we want a word with you'. My heart stopped - I thought they were going to leave. 'You don't like ironing do you?' they said. 'We've got the house sorted, now we'll do the ironing - we don't know what your husband should have to go to work in an unironed shirt every day.' We call them our fairy godmothers, the girls. I couldn't do without them."

Ravinder Rozen,
bachelor and manager
(BRIDGET)

"I call her Little Bridget: she's a very big Irish Lady. The first time she came I had forgotten she was due and as I put my key in the front door I don't know who was the more frightened - me or her. I hope that's you Bridget" I said... She comes twice a week but I hardly ever see her. When I do she's always very caring. She's already saying 'You can't lift that'; and she's had a dreadful job with the builders who've been here since July, covering the floor with great dirty footprints after she's Hoovered - and the dog hairs all over the carpet. I couldn't do as much as I do without her. Eventually what I feel I pay for is time to do other work. Annie loves cleaning and does it in a nice relaxed way. It would be a real chore without her. We've established a relationship that is good. If I were ill I know Terry could ring her up and ask her to help; we have a nice balance that I know from past experience is difficult to achieve. The great thing is to go out in the morning knowing that when you come home the carpet will look like a new-mown lawn. If she were to go I'd feel pretty desperate - I think I'd go to bed for six months and hide under the sheets. We'd all miss her terribly."

Rosalind Rozen,
mother and student
(ELLEN)

"When we moved here it was from a completely different area. Ellen came with the house - she'd been working for the two previous owners and still does for one, who lives near by. Ellen belongs in Camden Square. She's married, with three children. Her husband's the local milkman. She's completely indigenous to the area, would only shop round here, wouldn't dream of going shopping in Selfridges, for example... We are friendly with one another but she's very discreet, takes pride in not discussing other employers, though if we feel we've both been very busy we sometimes sit down and have a chat. Though I'm a good 10 years older, I feel we're a similar age, we confide about our children, the terrible things teenagers do... She comes every morning, cleans tidies up. If I'm away she always has my dog, looks after the house and plants. We don't interrupt each other: she knows if I'm working. She asks how my essays are going, though she doesn't know what they're about, she takes more interest than the other members of the family! I find her quite a lift to my morale. She takes as much pride in what she does as I do - and she does a lot for me, sometimes helps with a dinner party. There's nothing that I regard 'her' job and not 'mine'. If I feel like doing something in the house I will - and I always make my bed and clean my bath... I call myself not liberal, not socialist but egalitarian."

Tomorrow: Friday Page: Anatomy of a best seller. Medical Briefing looks at the new Pill



Light the beacon, sound the tocsin

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

from hilltop to hilltop by semaphore. As there are over 4,000 characters in Chinese semaphore, and each transmission needs a team of 30 skilled flag-wavers, progress was slow, in one province, the news actually caught up with the previous announcement that Roger Bannister had beaten four minutes for the mile.

Had she timed it right? That was the question that grizzled old newsmen in suburban Addis Ababa were asking one another. Many of them had not eaten properly for over two months, but their hunger was forgotten in the excitement of debating whether the recent boundary changes could compensate for lost Tory votes. In Nairobi, where David Owen is known as "stave-little-devin" and Michael Foot is known, if at all, as "he-who-has-horned-his-hair-from-a-bigger-man", spontaneous folk songs were composed to the effect that if this swing were repeated all over the country, the Tories would win by more than 600 seats, which is obviously ridiculous, what is your comment on that? Gerald Kaufman?

In the Kremlin the lights burn late as Yuri Andropov and a team of crack British defectors worked through the night, wondering whether to throw their weight behind Maggie Thatcher and thus defeat her, as they have done so successfully with the Socialists in the recent German election. In the White House, the candles were guttering low when the news of June 9 arrived.

was strange, as it was only 10 am, but you have to remember that Mr Reagan comes from an older generation which is only happy in a log cabin. And in Buenos Aires, nobody could understand why the British Army had not taken over.

In meeting halls throughout Britain, meanwhile, Social Democrats were wrist-wrestling with Liberals for the honour of representing the Alliance. Tory candidates were giving the last polish to their new Sierras.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 58)

ACROSS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Mend (6)							
5 Add favour (6)							
6 Tree (3)							
9 Community (6)							
10 Girl's name (6)							
11 Church song (4)							
12 Not graded (6)							
13 Groom (6)							
14 Degraded (6)							
15 Small (3)							
20 Sailor (4)							
22 Soft yari (6)							
23 Ice spike (6)							
24 Attach (3)							
25 Milk curder (6)							
26 Finality (3,3)							
DOWN							
2 Hard wood (5)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3 Pungent gas (7)							
4 Male roe (7)							
5 Slides (5)							
6 Having knowledge (5)							
7 Normal self (7)							
14 Fundamental (7)							
15 Between (7)							
16 Celebrate (7)							
17 Two dots (5)							
18 Oak seed (5)							
19 Hard work (5)							
21 Two dots (5)							

SOLUTION TO No 57
ACROSS: 1 Bandit 4 Fortid 7 Yawl 8 Raincoat 9 Jailbird 12 Fen 15 Drench 16 Quorum: 17 Mot 18 Loosbox 24 Beancpole 25 Sir 26 Garbo 27 Flimzy
DOWN: 1 Boys 2 Newt 3 Throb 4 Frier 5 Rock 6 Crate 10 Local 11 Down 12 Fogpon 13 Number 14 Edens 15 Opera 20 Ozona 21 Sheaf 22 Sung 23 Pray

BOOKS

Seriously crazy times

Robert Lowell

A Biography

By Ian Hamilton

(Faber, £12.50)

Robert Lowell (1917-1977) was a manic depressive who suffered complete breakdowns and spells in hospital more or less every other year throughout the second half of his life. He speeded up, displaying what he himself called "pathological enthusiasm", fell in love, collapsed and smelt the sulphur and brimstone of the Devil's work in places as varied as Boston, New York, Buenos Aires, London, Salzburg, Cincinnati, Bloomington (Indiana), Yaddo and Maine. Nor, was he spared on recovery, for when Lowell was himself again, he remembered it all:

I dabble in the dapple of the day/a heap of wet clothes, seamy, shivering/I see my flesh and bedding stained with light/my child exploding into dynamics/having your lightness everts everything/turns the black web from the spider's sack/as your heart hops and flutters like a hare/Poor tortoise, I cannot clear the surface of these troubled waters here/safes me, help me, Dear Heart, as you bear this world's dead weight and cycle on your back." (Night Sweat, 1963.)

Few writers have written with such visceral relentlessness out of their own experiences - intimate letters, phone calls, conversations and telegrams, Ian Hamilton tells us, all went into the poems - and it will surprise no readers of this marvellous biography to learn that there were those on the edge of his acquaintance who suspected malingerer for effect and good copy, and vigorously deplored his treatment of the wives and the hapless women whom, in mania, he seized on to replace them. Even though we may share these suspicions and dismay, Lowell still emerges as a tragic and exasperating figure and perhaps the greatest poet of our language between 1945 and 1970.

An understanding of this network is crucial to the pressures of expectation for genius which destroyed so many of its members driving them to run into

the traffic or jump off a bridge. Lowell was terrified to fail. At first attracted by America's ponderous acclaim and the courtship of Kennedy, he then fled from the implications of laureate ship and bardolatory in typically ambivalent style.

I cannot take it. One grows sick... Of stretching for this mortal, this hammering, allegoric splendour...

But stretch for it he did; and middle America gruffly blew its nose. Not for long, however, for Lowell had always taken his own incurable illness as a metaphor for the sickness of the world, refusing to fight in 1943, believing (so early) that the Allies had already exceeded their brief to defend with the mindless destruction of civilian targets; becoming manically obsessed with Communist infiltration in New England (1949); he spoke on behalf of unilateral disarmament and against Johnson's policies in Vietnam. He was a big, clownish-looking man, and smiled the wide smudged smile of a child who does not wish to upset anyone and knows he has something to hide. "He had something untouchable," reported Norman Mailer from Washington in *Armies of the Night*.

The American *Parnassus*, is *terra incognita* to those of us who do not keep its Baedekers and Michelin's - the *New York Review of Books*, the *Partisan Review* and *Sewanee Review* - up to date. And Hamilton describes the *Parnassians* and New Critics closest to Lowell - John Crowe Ransom, his teacher; Randall Jarrell and Allen Tate, his most respected critic-friends; Theodore Koethke, John Berryman and Elisabeth Bishop, his brothers and sister in poetry - in a manner which removes them from the American version of our Bloomsbury know-how, tells us of Simon's Bloomsbury know-how, tells us of Simon's

knowledge, tells us of the great men of our language between 1945 and 1970.

They were, a Lowell colleague at Essex remembers of the late Sixties, "seriously crazy times". If it is still too soon to write with historical detachment of figures such as Ivan Illich, whom Lowell visited in Cuernavaca, or Eugene McCarthy, whose supporters he dismayed by his court-fooling, it is even more premature to expect the last word on the three difficult and long-suffering women, all still alive, who married Robert Lowell: Jan Stafford, Elizabeth Hardwick and Lady Caroline Blackwood.

Each has apparently collaborated



Robert Lowell photographed in 1977

closely with Hamilton, but it is Hardwick, the dear heart of "Night Sweat", who emerges as the hero of this book and if, in the end, we value Lowell's spiritual grandeur and return to the poems with new illuminations in hand, it is because we watch Lowell's cycles of disintegration, recovery and genius primarily through the sharp, forthright and unsentimental sympathy of the woman who stuck it out with him for

Michael Ratcliffe

Caesar-watcher

Julius Caesar and his Public Image

By Zvi Yavetz

(Thames & Hudson, £15.)

More ink has been expended on J. Caesar over the past 20 centuries than almost any other individual apart from J. Christ. But we still cannot agree about him. Was he a great innovative statesman, or a gambler who wanted to be King, or even a prototype Fascist dictator? Is there anything left to say?

Of course there is, so long as men are interested in their past and in the causes of great events. Professor Yavetz approaches Caesar by way of his image, his fame and existence, no, which the contemporary Saatchi & Saatchi started creating even in his lifetime, and the image makers have

been working on ever since. He discusses the work of Caesar-watching of the past 150 years, much of it in German, and comes to original conclusions.

Even those who reject the idea that Caesar tried to establish a monarchy have to admit that he was much more than just a Roman dictator. His performance and achievements made restoration of the old Republic impossible. He was on the whole a moderate statesman, who was nevertheless unable to avoid the impression that he put through his moderate policies by ruthless force. He was the last great general of the ancient world, but the new regime would be established by a less brilliant and therefore a more tolerant man. We shall go on arguing about him until the ink runs out.

Philip Howard

Hamlet follows his father's hand from *Hamlet* by Simon Wilson (Phaidon, £12.50)

Muslim art and history

Atlas of the Islamic World since 1500

By Francis Robinson

(Phaidon, £18)

"Atlas" is a misnomer for this beautiful book. "Illustrated history" would be nearer the mark. The maps, though interesting, are perhaps the least satisfactory part of it. The use of too many similar shades of green and brown makes some of them difficult to follow, but they are easily outnumbered by the pictures, which bring the Islamic world before the reader in all its breathtaking richness and diversity.

Here are the splendours, in painting and architecture, of Safavid Iran, Mughal India, and Ottoman Turkey. A series of pictures and diagrams illustrate the art of Sina, Sulaiman the

Magnificent's great mosque-builder, and his successive efforts to design an Islamic structure that would surpass the thousand-year-old cathedral of St Sophia.

But, moving down the centuries, we find mosques in the same regions, built within the last hundred years, which are much more obviously mosques. Over much of the Islamic world," the author explains, "the influences of Islamic reformism, and sometimes of colonial rule, have combined to make architectural styles resemble the buildings of Middle Eastern Islam at the expense of indigenous styles."

Nor is Dr Robinson's Islam a matter of art and architecture only. It is a faith and a community of human beings. Here are Ayatollah Khomeini and his son Ahmad, in the happier days of February 1979,

Edward Mortimer

Fiction

God, love, and the professionals of discontent

Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter

By Mario Vargas Llosa

(Faber, £7.95)

It may be powerfully argued that the most entertaining as well as the most rewarding and profound, contemporary fiction is written by those whose approach to the novel is innovative, imaginative and disciplined in structural variety, inventive and versatile in narrative technique, adaptable and adventurous in prose style. Such writers would include Gabriel García Márquez, John Fowles, Gilbert Sorrentino, and Anthony Burgess: writers who believe that the novel can do things which cannot be accomplished in any other form, who are usually trying some new mixture which will extend the art of fiction. Pre-eminent among them, in the opinion of your reviewer, is the Peruvian author Mario Vargas Llosa.

The achievement represented in his five major novels, to date, is staggering in its technical and narrative brilliance and in the power of its impact. In *The City and the Dogs* (originally published in the UK as *The Time of the Hero*, The Green House, and Conversation in the Cathedral) the complexity of the structure reflects the bewildering complexity of influences and events which befall the main characters, including hereditary, environmental, historical, topographical, and cultural forces that have shaped them into the people they are.

Meanwhile, Mario makes his first advances to Aunt Julia. Her initial astonishment is followed by a growing warmth tinged with amusement and

their love-play gathers momentum while still remaining play.

The stories of Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter, told in counterpoint, are interspersed with examples of Comacho's increasingly bizarre art: two

strange veins of rich comedy are expertly mined. Comacho's monstrous creation throws into relief the generous normality, pleasantly flawed, of Mario, Julia, their family and friends.

Of course, when the family learn of the relationship there is immediate scandal and a determination to break it up at all costs. So Mario resolves to marry Aunt Julia.

While he is making frantic arrangements towards this right

end, Comacho, whose

scripts have been getting steadily madder and also mixing up

plots, names and dramatic

personae, kills off all his

characters in a sequence of

massive radio disasters. And

breaks down. The resolutions of both plots occur in the final chapter: the one coolly, affectionately realistic; the other

typically ironic.

Apart from the imaginative

exuberance of the Comacho

inventions, the novel is a

terrific love-story: tough, ten-

der, funny, tactfully erotic, with

moments of bitterness, despair

and farce. Its complete lack of

sentimentality is remarkable,

for it is written, obviously, with

love. *Aunt Julia* is more

accessible and less ambitious

than most of Sr Vargas Llosa's

work; but it will evoke as much

admiration as it will amaze us

next?

Stuart Evans

Civilizing Bellona

The Causes of War

By Michael Howard

(Maurice Temple Smith, £10)

The ancient Chinese sage (or

junta of sages) known to us as the *Lao Tzu* once observed: "Truthful words are not beautiful; beautiful words are not truthful. Good words are not persuasive; persuasive words are not good. He who knows has no wide learning; he who

has no wide learning does not know." Professor Howard's

splendid incidental answer to these dubious propositions. An elegance of style which, since his much esteemed early work

The Franco-Prussian War, has

always distinguished his writing

has not been achieved by a

sacrifice of accuracy or relentless

extension of his "wide

learning", and his critical

judgments - sometimes

ruthless - are usually

coherent. More than that, I

suppose that during recent

decades nobody on either side

of the Atlantic has so effectively

brought military studies

securely within the domain of

the humane disciplines. If he

has not civilized Bellona single-

handed, he is *primus inter*

allow the overdue publication of his official history of Deception in World War Two that impression will be confirmed.

In a collection which ranges from Thucydides to nukes, and from the elder Pitt's conduct of the Seven Years' War to a penetrating analysis of Kissinger's diplomacy, the connecting thread, I believe, is to be found in Professor Howard's deep but dispassionate study of Clausewitz - in his grasp of the truth which the great man internally exemplified that in war every thing is simple, but that the simplest thing is the most difficult.

Because Howard has a very lucid mind he is an adept at identifying and articulating the simplicities, but the young Guards officer who fought with distinction in the Italian campaign always qualifies his presentation of those simplicities with an extreme awareness of the "frictions" as Clausewitz put it (or perhaps the "snags" as the Americans would say) which inevitably arise on the battlefield or in the council-chamber. This balance between the peripient, the sceptical and the compassionate is well illustrated in his long post-mortem analysis of Liddell Hart. A personal debt as a young scholar to Sir Basil for much typical kindness does not prevent him from a scrupulous impartiality (which, as one who shared that kindness, I greatly admire) in putting his finger on the flaws as well as the constructive originality of a nonpareil.

His lecture on "The Use and Abuse of Military History" ends thus: "It must never be forgotten that the true use of history, military or civil, is, as Jacob Burckhardt once said, not to make men clever for the next time; it is to make them wise for ever." One sees why his roots run back to Thucydides.

Ronald Lewin

Nabobs and Nobs

India Britannica

By Geoffrey Moorhouse

(Harvill, £12.95)

The scent of raw India is burning cow-dung. You smell it in the aircraft before the wheels have stopped turning. Nothing brings back the sense of nostalgia so strongly to those who are lucky enough to return.

Geoffrey Moorhouse evokes the same feeling. Both a picture and a story-book it is richly illustrated with unfamiliar coloured plates: alas! none by Edward Lear, who is briefly referred to as "the nonsensical rhymester". The writing is clear and filled with anecdote. So much ground is covered that one reaches for one's reference books to look up the details. For those who want the latest information there is an unusually good chapter on sources.

The East India Company was formed for trading. Such troops as it had were for the protection of the traders, at least at first. The stakes were high. Either you made a profit or died of disease, or from eating and drinking too much.

The Nabobs made vast fortunes. Just how vast it is difficult to calculate today. They came back to England with their loot and were much looked down upon by the jealous and less fortunate country gentry. Like oil-magnates today they bought everything in sight, particularly country estates, and the boroughs that went with them. Some, indeed, built exquisite Indian follies like Sezincote in the Cotswolds.

The Nobs who followed the Nabobs, lasted for nearly two hundred years. They included many famous names from other spheres. Generals, Governors-General and Viceroys all had their own independent ideas on how India should be run. For example Lord William Bentinck. He abolished flogging, not done away with in the British army for another 50 years. He started the Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Delhi. He put the first steamboat on the Ganges. He prohibited the practice of Suttee (widow-burning) and suppressed Thuggee, the ritual killing of travellers, and he quadrupled the salaries of Indian judges. Bentinck also recruited Thomas Babington Macaulay the great Indian law-giver.

Gontran Goulen

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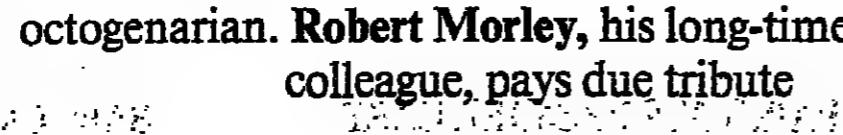
My friend Wilfrid Hyde-White is 80 today and still living. I hasten to add lest some should think they are reading his obituary, in Studio City, California. His exact address, if he will forgive me mentioning it, is 3687 Willow Crest. There are not, of course, anything like three thousand other properties on the Crest surrounding his. In Los Angeles there are boulevards with tens of thousands of blocks but they stretch from the desert to the ocean, whereas Willow Crest is (when you discover it, and this is by no means a simple task) merely a cul-de-sac in vague proximity to the Universal Picture Studios.

Long before I first met him, when he was a young actor in the Tom Walls Company at the Aldwych, he was nicknamed "Dasher" White. "Why was that, do you suppose?" I once asked Ben Travers, who was the resident playwright. Ben had forgotten, but, discussing our mutual friend, he opined that Wilfrid was the least curious man he had ever known: "He never really wanted to find out anything, he was cocooned by his upbringing in a country deanery, a 'Barchester Towers' man".

That lack of curiosity does not of course apply to the pedagogies of racehorses, of which he retains an encyclopedic knowledge, rivalled only by the late Dorothy Paget. Wilfrid's approach to life is that of royalty visiting a glue factory. He will ascertain, if he has to, how the substance is created and then dismiss it instantly and permanently from his mind.

Dorothy Paget was one of his most devoted fans. She made a point of attending his performances, reserving a box, but seldom arrived to see anything but the last few moments of the play. Once, when Wilfrid had forgone the last line, she did not seek

Wilfrid Hyde-White (right), master of comedy and horse-player extraordinary, today becomes an octogenarian. Robert Morley, his long-time friend and colleague, pays due tribute



Star's orders

him out in his dressing room, convinced that he had mistaken the theatre. Wilfrid missed his customary tryst with her at the Café de Paris, but the situation was remedied a few evenings later when they finally met and I was invited to join them. Neither touched their food, so immersed were they in the finer points of horse-breeding. Miss Paget hastened to get the discussion over so that she could attack her lobster while Noël Coward was singing to her. There was nothing apparently she enjoyed more than Coward with Howard Thernidor. At one moment she summoned the head waiter and asked if Mr Coward could postpone his cabaret for half an hour, as she and Wilfrid were so much enjoying themselves.

Mr Coward had no intention of singing that evening, having com-

pleted his stint a month before. I was of course perfectly aware of the fact but had not wanted to miss a free supper. Miss Paget, hearing the news, was immensely relieved and suggested that whoever was preparing to entertain her should be paid off for the evening and offered, thanked for his pains. Wilfrid snatched the cheque book from her hand. "Let the fellow sing," he told her. "Probably some of them want to hear him." Miss Paget attacked her lobster. I asked Wilfrid afterwards whether he had not thought her behaviour a bit strange. "Wouldn't you be strange?" he retorted. "If you owned Golden Miller?"

It is easy to dismiss my old friend's approach to the theatre as a casual acceptance of the fact that a play was written to enable him to get the laughs and, if it failed so to provide, would have to be rewritten – preferably by himself, often on the

first night and always at matinees. I remember a matinée of one Mr William Douglas Home's pieces, when Wilfrid interpolated an entire scene at a crucial moment of the plot, while he pondered what to call a new yearling which had mysteriously come into his possession after the curtain had risen. Fellow members of the cast were finally and in desperation persuaded to suggest names suitable to its breeding, but Wilfrid stopped them to scorn, remarking the only possible solution was Coal Scuttle. Then, enormously over-satisfied with his resourcefulness, he returned to the play. "Where were we?" he demanded. "We must finish this or some of them will be missing their tea."

He came of a generation of actors who often, and sometimes it must be said mistakenly, had no great respect for playwright or director. He and I

once persuaded him to play in one of my own concoctions, *Hippo Dancing*. The play opened in Dublin fairly well but not nearly well enough for Wilfrid: in those days he toured with a Rolls-Royce and a minder. They were both fairly old, but the minder was a former girlfriend and she appeared in my bedroom "the morning after" with an ultimatum. "Unless Wilfrid's part is radically improved by Blackpool, I shall withdraw him." That gave me a week. Wilfrid, of course, never referred to my dilemma.

I gave him the new scene on the plane, he agreed to rehearse, and we played it to stony silence on the Friday. On the way back to our hotel, Wilfrid stopped the motor and got out. He is surely not leaving me like this? I asked myself, but he had alighted to be sick. For the first time I realized how much he cared. We gave the scene a new beginning next night and had no trouble with it thereafter. When the run finished Wilfrid announced his intention of leaving for the States. "I really cannot stand another winter in England with the income tax and *Violetta*" – here he named his new fiancée. Then he apologised. "That was a very caddish thing to say about the income tax."

He once made a brief but unnecessary appearance in the Bankruptcy Court, where even the Official Receiver fed him the line. "If you cannot tell us how you spent such a large sum in so short a time, perhaps you could tell us what will win the Gold Cup at Ascot this afternoon, since I understand you would already like to be on your way?" "Of course, dear fellow," Wilfrid rejoined, and surprisingly named the winner. "Only have a small bet," he cautioned. "We don't want to have to change places, do we?"

Television Freedom eroded

Franco Biscione (Channel 4) and that, say the Spanish Left, threatens trouble. Last night's edition of 20/20 Vision went on a tour of the battlefield which has now been thrown up between the forces of freedom and repression, as exemplified by the Basque separatists on one side and the Ministry of the Interior on the other.

It might be argued that the Basques, like the Welsh nationalists, are too wild and romantic to represent the common or garden sort of freedom most of us would settle for; it might also be argued that that area is moving towards a situation unpleasantly reminiscent of Ulster.

What this brief essay by Sarah Hayneaves did suggest, however, was that the anti-terrorist measures adopted to deal with ETA are poised to strike at routine civil liberties in the country as a whole. In a recent hunt for an ETA kidnap victim 16,000 houses were searched in one sector of Madrid; from June 1, all changes of occupancy of flats and houses will have to be notified to the police.

The lawyers and journalists interviewed agreed virtually unanimously that Franco's wish to leave the country "well sewn up" had so far come true: with the forces, police, courts and press largely controlled by his ideological heirs, there was little scope for the liberties promised by the new regime flourish.

Young men told of the treatment they had received at the hands of the police ("They got me to kneel down ... started kicking me in the groin ..."), a lawyer catalogued the incidence of the most popular techniques (plastic bags over heads, electrodes to genitals, sleep deprivation) and the Minister of the Interior, when asked if there was now any police brutality, said "Broadly speaking no."

We met a journalist who was about to go inside for 18 months because he had written satirically in support of the Basque cause. We met another journalist in exile who had publicly named two leading Rightists subsequently murdered by ETA: the line between journalistic freedom and criminal incitement is in this part of the world not easy to draw.

The Right's provoking programme was, inevitably, implicitly partisan: the 26-minute format precluded any effective account of the views of the country as a whole, which was a pity.

Two years ago today Robert Nesta Marley died in bed. "So who was this natural mystic man with a gentle voice and revolution in his songs?" asked the Ebony (BBC2) voice-over. The question was largely rhetorical, and the evidence adduced was mostly familiar, but this film fittingly celebrated him. Friends and relations reminisced merrily, archive clips relayed the atmosphere of the performances, but there was no hint of the extraordinary power of Marley's music at its best.

Michael Church

Silver Bear-Berlin 1980
Academy Award 1980
Nomination-best foreign language film

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Concert

Philharmonia/ Handley Festival Hall

If I have a secret vice, it is that I like Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto. It is scarcely possible to admit such things in sophisticated circles, and yet each time I hear the piece it sounds well put together, utterly sure of its melancholic yearning self. As the American critic Paul Rosenfeld wrote, "From it there flows the sadness distilled by all things that are little useless ... Rachmaninov comes among us like a very charming and amiable ghost".

Perhaps we need a few more ghosts among today's music-makers. At any rate, I could have done with something slightly less tangible than John Lill as soloist in Tuesday's performance: he attacked the pounding chords of the first movement as if dispensing machine-gun fire, and hit the octave melody of the Adagio with a brazen clang giving each note an equally acid tone. He was certainly sure where he was going all the time (my affection for the work survived playing in a performance where the soloist lost himself hopelessly among the haze of sequences), but when he arrived the noise was not very pleasant.

Vernon Handley, conducting, had a splendid sweep and good authority to his beat: now that Sir Adrian Boult is dead, it is good to know that someone will keep alive that magisterial use of a vast baton controlled by only the most delicate of wrist movements. Handley has been consistently underrated; in what he does best he is undemonstrative but highly effective. Catching a record of Elgar's First Symphony to the ear the other day, I thought the control of detail and pacing so fine that I felt sure it must be Handley's recording – but it was Handley's.

His *Enigma Variations* in the second half of this concert was similarly firm: I liked the deliberate pace of the opening, markings carefully observed, the gentle, unhurried pace of Variation 3 and the expansive but ever-moving "Nimrod". Handley is very good at punctuation: in the finale, he made a long, deep pause before launching into figure 70, which gathered together the accumulated tension admirably. But it was noticeable that – apart from outstanding cello solos (also fine in the William Tell Overture at the start) and brittle, thwacked timpani – Handley did not draw especially good playing from the Philharmonia. There were some ragged string entries, and the performance generally lacked that electric charge which distinguishes the great from the good.

Nicholas Kenyon

Cinema

David Robinson reports from the Cannes Festival

Ladies of pleasure

Cannes is turning out to be an actress's festival this year. I have already written, from the film's Budapest premiere, about the extraordinary playing of Mari Török and Lili Monor as the peasant mother and daughter in Zsolt Kezdi Kovacs's *Forbidden Relations*. The film, which treats with rare warmth and compassion the problems of a remote rural community in which a brother and sister persistently live as man and wife and loving parents, is which first made Giraudoux's British reputation.

As *Tiger at the Gates* (Christopher Fry's first title for *La Guerre de Troie n'a pas lieu*) the 1955 Apollo production struck Kenneth Tynan as "the final comment on the superiority of war" and won over the London public in spite of the Urdu non-psychological characterization, a preference for debate rather than action and the aloof contemplation of great events from long range. These and the other hitherto resisted elements of French classical dramaturgy suddenly became acceptable to the West End.

One reason is that Giraudoux was committed to comedy (almost, it seems, as a moral obligation) and that his treatment of the Helen affair had a passing resemblance to Shaw. More to the point, he had something to say about the nature of war which crossed the cultural boundaries of post-1945 Europe as easily as I

had. Helen, delicate as an eyelid and amazingly feeble Prism expect it to do again in these pre-nuclear times.

In brief, Giraudoux' the former diplomat viewed the conflict of nations as a celestially arranged prize fight, with the combatants carefully dined and exercised to peak condition and then let loose to destroy each other for the delight of the Olympian ringside observers.

The Trojan War expresses no hope that this state of affairs

can ever be altered. What it does do is expose the operation of fate in the hope that politicians, priests, intellectuals and the public at large will be less taken in by the sanctions that have led the nations of history sleep-walking into a trap prepared by the powers above.

For this reason Giraudoux's temperamental coldness, and his choice of a location removed from the direct sphere of action, fits perfectly with the content and purpose of the work. Rewriting Homeric legend, he brings Hector back from one ruinously victorious campaign determined to close the gates of war for ever.

In this he almost succeeds.

He persuades Paris to release Helen; he outspars the bell-like Helen's senator-poet Demobios and runs rings around the Trojan intelligentsia. It is one comic triumph after another, except where he confronts the unyieldingly phable Helen – a mirror figure who reflects the desires of all who gaze on her – and concides that "with each victory the prize escapes me".

And sure enough, after his conference with Ulysses and the Greeks' decision to pit his cunning against fate instead of a mortal enemy, the pact is broken by a drunken accident and war is declared.

The heart of the play is in this

great scene and in Hector's anti-

Pericles oration to the dead,

where he describes war as "the

most sordid and hypocritical

way of making all men equal".

This is Giraudoux speaking:

written, endearing and funny, until a shilly lubricious account of the Jerusalem Lilies (they needed 11 veils to make the film) and how their improbable attractions got out of hand.

But Mr Ellnenbaum's own performance never ceases to be humorously lovable and spontaneous while showing total technical assurance as imaginary truncheons assail him from above and fleas from below. It implicitly condemns all the cells of horror in black and white Africa, and impressed me at every moment that, for all its protagonist's filming, it is live theatre, as live as theatre can be.

Anthony Masters

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Irry Wardle

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Precious Remnants

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Mildly expositing "Now look, gentlemen" to unseen torturers in malodorous tropical suits, a big, gentle Englishman is flung into a prison cell without warning for weeks of solitary confinement.

His ruddy spade beard, proclaiming good Victorian values, suggests W. G. Grace played by Nicol Williamson. Labelled "Kit Stor", his prison surrounds him with familiar paraphernalia: cricket bats and stumps, pads from which he can make a bed on the floor, and a

box which he finds as uncomfortable when used for a pillow as when worn in its intended place.

Nicholas Ellnenbaum's one-man play is deceptively restrained, in both his writing and performance, with few howls of pain, and desperate tears only once as the innocent film actor he portrays returns from unimaginable interrogations with bruised kidneys and a broken hand.

Into his fantasies, invented to pass time, he gradually regresses: a school cricket match where he plays a 17-year-old ear, the unsuspecting escapades of the aged Miss Morag McNair who

taught him nature studies, a court martial under fearsome General Blood for stabbing, while an officer and a gentleman, in a film of fatuous pornography called *The Lily of Jerusalem*.

Interruptions at intervals by reality as his sufferings increase these episodes arise, with unobtrusive subtlety, from the furniture to hand (a vaulting horse with a golf club stuck in it becomes a camel), the occasional nightmarish awareness of what has actually happened and sunny recall of a secure colonial past which tells its own connected tale about that society. They are beautifully

written, endearing and funny, until a shilly lubricious account of the Jerusalem Lilies (they needed 11 veils to make the film) and how their improbable attractions got out of hand.

But Mr Ellnenbaum's own performance never ceases to be humorously lovable and spontaneous while showing total technical assurance as imaginary truncheons assail him from above and fleas from below. It implicitly condemns all the cells of horror in black and white Africa, and impressed me at every moment that, for all its protagonist's filming, it is live theatre, as live as theatre can be.

Anthony Masters

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Irry Wardle

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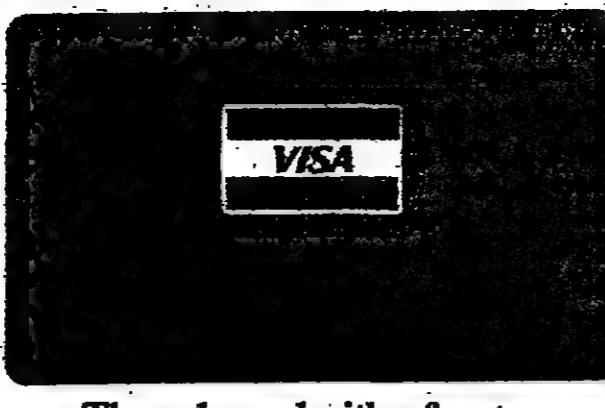
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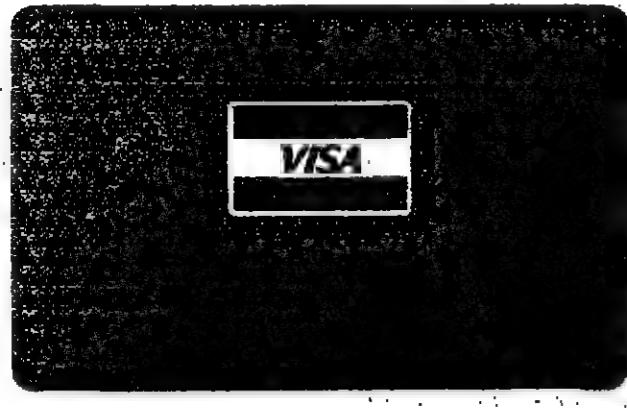
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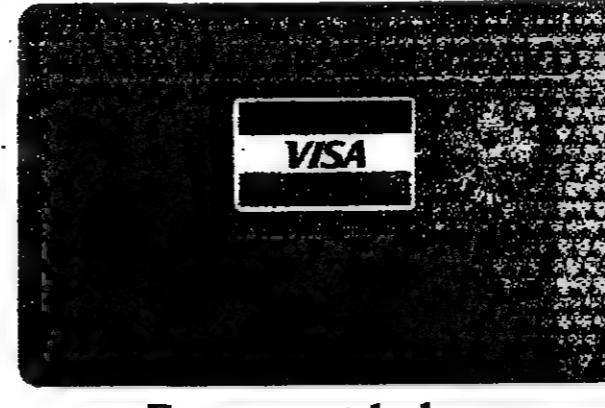
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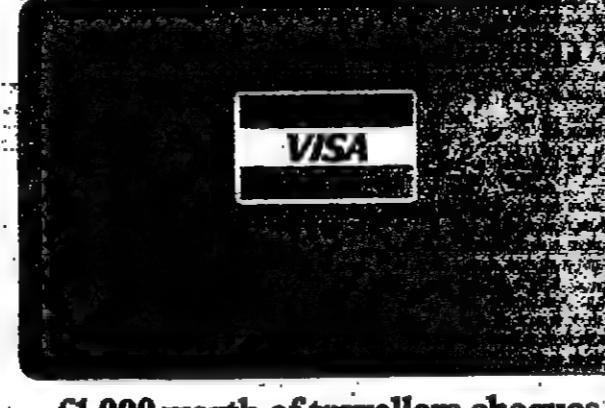
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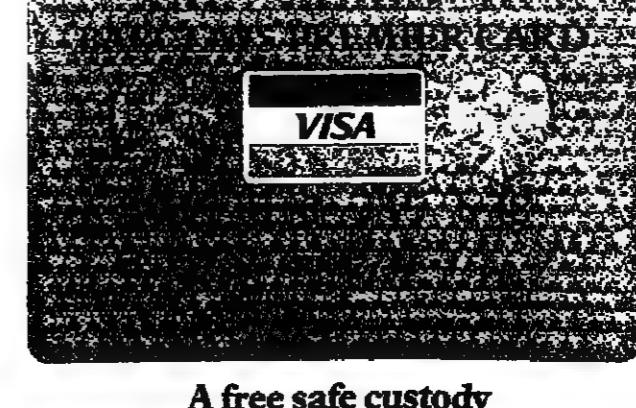
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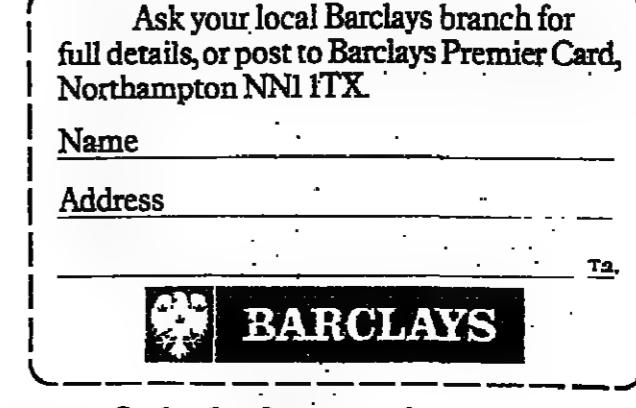
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BARCLAYS



Monopoly money

Waddingtons, the original Monopolizers, are looking for owners of the first game they put on the market, an initially unsuccessful pastime called Lexicon. Now 50 years old, the game involved making words with cards around a number of whilst and bridge formats. Holders of first issue models will have to prove the veracity of their claims by producing the accompanying 65-page rule book. Games in good condition could be worth as much as £30, and the company is offering a collection of its more recent games in payment. One of these is called My Word, symptomatic of our times. It only runs to four-letter words.

Lost horizons

This week's *Economist* carries a report, oppositely headlined "Done-a-bunker Hunt", about Keith Hunt, "who disappeared from Britain last month leaving debts estimated at £18m". It mentions his now wounded companies, including one called Futures Index. Yet just six pages further on there is a half-page advertisement for that same Futures Index inviting *Economist* readers to "Widen your Financial Horizons". "The advertisement had been booked but was officially stopped by the advertisers". The *Economist*'s advertising department said yesterday, "It just slipped through. We shall not be charging them for it." Keith Hunt, wherever you are, that at least is one little bit of money you do not owe.

Stop press

British journalists visiting Sweden as guests of the Foreign Ministry last week had nearly an hour with Olof Palme, the Prime Minister; 45 minutes each with the foreign and defence ministers; in mid-submarine crisis; and 45 minutes with the King and Queen, for which they had the gall to be 10 minutes late. Swedish journalists on a reciprocal visit hosted by the Central Office of Information were offered a meeting with Lord Belstead, a trip to Parliament and a tour of redevelopment sites in Liverpool. With telephone lines between London and Stockholm sizzling, Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, found he could spare them 15 minutes. One of the Swedes said afterwards: "We were very pleased they kept our evenings free."

• Times are hard but I did not expect Rank Xerox to be reduced to naturalism. A letter from the company apologizing for more than five months' delay in paying £300 for a trade-in ends: "Please bear with us for a little longer."

Quid pro quo

Sunday Telegraph readers are wasting their money and should definitely switch to the *News of the World*. My proof for this confident assertion is two advertisements for *The Ordnance Survey Atlas of Great Britain* placed by the Literary Guild. One, in this week's *Telegraph Sunday Magazine*, offered the book for £1 plus 95p post and packing. The other, in the same day's *Sunday with the News of the World*, advertised the same book for 50p and with only 45p to add for post and packing. Worse still, the promise is for 40 pages of new maps in the 50p offer, mysteriously short to 35 at twice the price. The choice is clear, and our thanks go to the PHScot who spotted the difference.

Dim view

Andrew Faulds, thespian MP for Warley East, suspects London Transport are out to rob us all. Passing through Paddington, he bought a 40p underground ticket from a machine marked: "This machine accepts 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p coins. He put in 50p, and got a ticket, but no change. When he protested at the booking office, another but dimly lit sign was pointed out to him: "Exact fare only to obtain ticket." "I find the introduction of this new system totally deceptive and dishonest," blusters Faulds, and I trust that the management will immediately put right this public theft of passengers' money."

The truth game

Do not believe that television personalities are essentially shallow. Hilary Lawson, the former deputy chief executive of ailing TV-am who left soon after Angela Rippon and Anna Ford, is now writing a book on philosophy. The subject is reflexivity, which he says is "the problem that arises when you want to say there is no truth which means there is truth". Experience at Camden Lock no doubt provides an empirical advantage.



Eight Cumbrians will be spending many of their nights in freezer centres between now and next March, with the blessing of Willie Whitelaw. Sleeping in temperatures as low as -10° centigrade, they are preparing to become the first Britons to climb Everest via the West Ridge route from China, and the Home Secretary, MP for Penrith and the Border, is their patron. The climbers, who range in age from 30 to 43, will, if successful, also be the first from this country to conquer the peak without oxygen supplies. During their training on the Lakeland peaks, they could do worse than nip over to Wigton for a word with Everest veteran, Chris Bonington.

PHS

Can the EEC ever be a fair deal?

Mrs Thatcher has no reason to be defensive in the coming election about her handling of the EEC. She has managed to cut Britain's Euro-bill by three quarters between the end of 1979 and the start of 1983. That is a much bigger improvement than Britain achieved in the Wilson renegotiation of 1974-75.

The cut has been achieved because of Mrs Thatcher's aggressive tactics, notably at the Dublin summit in 1979; Lord Carrington's good sense in persuading her to accept a deal she disliked in May 1980; and a remarkable fluke. The fluke was that, in 1981 and 1982, EEC farm spending increased far more slowly than anybody expected.

However, as Mrs Thatcher is likely to discover if she attends next month's EEC summit in Stuttgart, her run of luck seems to be at an end. She appears to think that the summit will approve a cut of some two thirds in Britain's contribution to the budget for 1983. That is most unlikely. The other member states resent the fact that the rebates paid to Britain in the past three years have reduced its EEC bill by 75 per cent, instead of the cut of two thirds that the May 1980 deal was designed to produce. So, they argue, the repayment to Britain in 1983 should be correspondingly smaller.

In any case there is little disposition to be generous to Britain. The EEC is fast running out of cash (mainly because farm spending is out of control again, rising by 35 per cent in the past 12 months). And the French and Germans are increasingly anxious about the cost of letting Spain and Portugal into the club.

The danger is that this row will eclipse a far more important issue for Britain: the future shape of the Community's budget. Since Britain joined the EEC, it has been a net payer to Brussels, mainly because agriculture has continued to absorb

the bulk of EEC spending. As a net food importer, Britain loses twice over: because British food imports are overpriced and because Britain pays more into the farm budget than British farmers get back.

The EEC commission has now proposed a series of financial reforms designed, in part, to remedy this imbalance. Its main suggestion is that:

"The present ceiling on the EEC's revenue raised from VAT should be lifted. This would stop the Community going broke and would enable it to pay for new policies, for example, to cut youth unemployment. The ceiling would go up to 1.4 per cent in the first stage."

A slice of these VAT payments should be raised at a varying rate calculated to make rich countries

to tax each country purely according to its relative wealth. This would be simpler and fairer than the complex commission plan. The trouble is that it would involve a revolution in the EEC's present tax system, which was constructed with great difficulty in the late 1960s. Other member states would not wear that.

The commission's proposals represent a reasonable second-best solution. But they have two weaknesses. First, the commission has not developed many convincing ideas for "new policies" on which to spend the extra income.

Already several existing EEC policies, such as the regional policy, are not genuine policies but merely names for inefficient attempts to redistribute cash between countries to make up for the inequitable

'There is little disposition to be generous to Britain'

with lots of farmers pay more. Denmark and France, for example, would pay extra and Britain would pay less. This variable slice would finance all farm spending over and above the amount equivalent to a third of the total EEC budget.

Future increases in VAT should be approved by the 10-member governments and by a three-fifths majority in the European Parliament — but not, as now, by national parliament. This suggestion stands no chance of being accepted, and is an attempt to appease the European Parliament (which is seriously thinking of sacking the whole EEC commission later this year).

The commission's tax proposals are clearly not ideal. The most logical way to finance the EEC budget, as Sir Geoffrey Howe argued in his budget speech two years ago, is

incidence of the farm policy. There are only a few areas — of which overseas aid is one — where there is a clear economy of scale in having an EEC policy rather than 10 national policies. (The cost of the Common Agricultural Policy programme, in bureaucrats employed per dollar disbursed, is significantly lower than that of national aid programmes.)

Second, the commission has not devised an effective way to halt the growth of farm spending. Although its proposals would make gainers from farm spending pay more for it, this would not necessarily mean that the spending would be cut — especially since farm ministers have shown little regard in the past for the impact of their decisions on national budgets. Witness Mr Peter Walker's policy over the past four years of his budget, while trying to protect the interests of British farmers above those of

British taxpayers (the most scandalous aspect of the Thatcher government's EEC policy).

Besides, even if the commission's tax proposals were accepted, Britain's net budget bill would be cut by less than half (and its plans to spend more in Britain is only a hope). This is not likely to be acceptable to any British government.

The odds are, therefore, that British ministers will turn their eyes to an idea now being considered in Paris and Bonn: "égalité des soldats" — the smoothing out of the balances. Under this scheme, a ceiling would be set to the amount by which any country could profit or lose from the EEC budget. Thus, in practice, each country would contribute roughly as much as it got out of the budget.

This would be simple to operate and could be introduced without raising the level of VAT. It would also have the advantage that it would be easier to develop sensible EEC policies, since individual countries would look at new proposals on their merits and not on the basis of what national profit or loss might result from them.

The major snag is that it would be very difficult for the EEC, then in development, to impose explicitly designed to redistribute money from rich countries to poor ones. Italy, Ireland and Greece — and, in the future, Spain and Portugal — would lose heavily from such a change.

However, égalité would serve the interests of France, Britain and Germany. And as they are the three most powerful countries in the EEC, and the only three countries likely to be net payers under the present system, the odds are that they will get their way.

Stephen Milligan

The author is European editor of The Economist.

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Eighty-two years after the first edition, the great dictionary's fourth appears

Words that maketh the family Chambers

Edinburgh has two streets named after the union of Scotland and England — the thistle and the rose. There's a building in Thistle Street where, between the mounted calligraphy of Sir Walter Scott and the first dictionary definition of "zero option", you can find more than 160 years of publishing history.

The methods and the memorabilia of the house of Chambers — and the present generation of a modest dynasty — are still rooted in the heart of the capital, survivors of that golden age of Edinburgh publishing which nurtured figures like William Creech, Archibald Constable, William Blackwood and the brothers William and Robert Chambers.

W. and R. Chambers' brothers' most celebrated product, *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary*, goes into its fourth edition today. Dictionaries gestate and mutate slowly, although the postwar years and the hectic evolution of postwar language have accelerated the process. The first edition appeared in 1901 and the next two in 1952 and 1972, with a supplement in 1977. But Chambers's interest in lexicography dates back to 1868, when they published a small etymological dictionary.

They also produced an "English dictionary" in 1898 which George Bernard Shaw used with enthusiasm. "PS," he writes in a letter to the firm, "My Chambers's dictionary (my favourite of half a dozen) is dated 1898. In there a later edition — unspoiled?" The question suggests more than polite interest. He was probably hoping for a free copy.

In nearly two centuries W. and R. Chambers have explored most of the available avenues of publishing — general fiction, children's books, educational books and periodicals. They still produce a small educational list, but the fortunes of the family and the future of the firm are now invested in their reference books, of which *Chambers Twentieth Century* is the flagship. Tony Chambers, the company's chairman and managing director, says: "It helps to have a name which is also a trade mark."

It helps so much that on the Indian sub-continent, where Cham-



Tony Chambers, great-great-grandson of one of the founding brothers, and on his left, Betty Kirkpatrick, the dictionary's editor, with some of their staff.

joined by William, the two of them sleep on the floor of the shop with piles of books for pillows.

An early history of the company has a hint of Thatcherian rhetoric in its description of the brothers' rise from rags to riches: "It has often happened in Scotland that poor boys have become famous men, and it will often happen again, but when one considers these boys — William became an LLD of Edinburgh University, Robert of St Andrews; Robert was Master of the Merchant Company of Edinburgh; William was twice Lord Provost, and after twice refusing a knighthood was later persuaded to accept a baronetcy, the conferring of which was unfortunately prevented by his untimely death, untimely in that it happened just before the re-opening of St Giles' Cathedral, which he had so magnificently restored — when one considers the early privations and the ultimate triumph of sterling worth and character, the story of William and Robert seems more like a fairytale than most stories of the kind."

Today Tony Chambers, the great-grandson of Robert (who was himself a writer of distinction and friend of Lamb, Carlyle, de Quincey, Scott and Browning) lives in the affluent Edinburgh suburb of Broughton, and at 63, is an expert and active skier. He is also enough of a businessman to recognize that fairy tales don't have much of a market during recessions, and he has "ratiosized and consolidated just in time".

The Chambers operation has been

trimmed of general fiction and

children's books and the company,

which does its own warehousing and

distribution, now employs about 30

people. There are six editorial staff,

all focused on the reference books.

Chambers's energetic dictionary editor, Betty Kirkpatrick, also "does the educational books when I can find the time".

In the rented, one-room shop,

Robert lived mainly on tea. "For

three or four years of that time," he wrote, "I never got a regular dinner except on Sundays." When he was

strong on linguistics and phonetics. John Simpson lays claim to sport and jazz, Catherine Schwartau to music and Rachel Sherrard, wife of a minister, knows a lot about religion.

Betty Kirkpatrick, married to a doctor, had ready access to the language of medicine, but her own strength is an eclectic and encyclopedic mind: "You have to turn yourself into a kind of sponge". She has, however, given up doing crosswords and is beginning to feel oppressed by Scrabble. Chambers is the reference dictionary for the National Scrabble Championship and National Scrabble Club Tournament, which she judges. Her knowledge of her own dictionary, she says, is poor thing beside the awesome memories of Scrabble players.

"Some of them can actually tell you which page lists a certain word. They read but of the dictionary every night, although not necessarily for the meanings. Their object is to know the word, not the definition."

Chambers is as proud of its idiosyncrasies as it is of its statistics. It contains more language references and more definitions than any other single-volume dictionary, including its main competitor, the Concise Oxford, and the new edition, of course, makes it more up to date. "Ra-ra skirt, multilateralist, total allergy syndrome, kidology" and "yomp" are among their exclusive entries.

Dictionary watchers are particularly attached to Chambers's "humorous definitions" and how, with protest in the letters' columns of newspapers, if any of their favourites disappear. By public demand "eclair" ("long in shape but short in duration"), "perpetua", "pic" and "picture-store" (look them up) have been restored for 1983, and "man-eater" has been added: "A woman given to chasing, catching and devouring men."

Julie Davidson

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Ronald Butt

Labour's great unmentionable

The unions' attack on the last Labour government was the principal cause of Mr James Callaghan's downfall. But Labour still needs some sort of policy because it rejects the anti-inflation discipline that enables Mrs Thatcher to do without Labour.

Labour says that Mrs Thatcher has a pay policy in the shape of

unemployment and the fear of it. It

is, Labour implies, only because

there are now too many people

chasing too few jobs that unions

have stopped being unreasonable

about pay.

This is only half the truth. For the other half we must ask why the workers were unreasonable before Mrs Thatcher's time, thus provoking the attempted pay restraint which they then resisted. The answer is clear. In those days money was easy come, easy go. Its value was impermanent and evanescent.

So, as governments inflated and depreciated the value of money, unions increased their demands to make good lost purchasing power, which caused the currency to depreciate even faster. If, today, unions are more reasonable it is not simply for fear of unemployment but because the fall in inflation diminishes the urge to make unreasonable demands.

Labour's policies, however, are highly inflationary. There would be a huge increase of at least £10,000m in government spending, £5,000m of it borrowed from the pension funds and other institutions, supposedly by agreement, in a dash for expansion.

To prevent money hurtling out of Britain in consequence, exchange controls would be imposed. To prevent imports being sucked into Britain by easy money, there would be tariffs and import quotas. But the "dash economy" against which Mr Denis Healey unavailingly warns his party would not be enough.

Labour also needs a pay policy, which it has lacked since Mr Callaghan's defeat. The left bitterly resists the idea in the name of free collective bargaining. Various policy documents have therefore skirted around the subject. Mr Peter Shore's Programme for Recovery admitted that there was "no gainsaying the fact of inflationary pressures" arising from its expansion policies, and conceded that it would therefore be necessary to "contain the costs which prompt the increase in prices". Since it was admitted that two-thirds of total costs consisted of wage and salary costs, increases in which could not "all" be absorbed in the remaining one-third of costs, the implication was clear. There would be no room for pay rises.

The only answer we have is that the annual "national economic assessment" (NEA) which Labour wants to agree between government, unions and management would cover profits, prices, earnings, investments and social benefits.

Producing this would take six to nine months, and including preparation and adjustments would be a year-long process. But no hint has been given in any document of how a Labour government would cope without any kind of wage restraint in its first year while awaiting the agreed plan, or on how the plan for wages would be enforced in practice.

Mr Healey is sensitive to the

Ross Davies

In praise of the sweet, lovable cockroach



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ULTIMATE THINGS

It is a good moment, at the start of a general election campaign to be reminded by Alexander Solzhenitsyn – speaking more over in London – what happens to a society when men have forgotten God. Though he was speaking about the evils of the Soviet system, he had harsh words to say about the decline of the West. He has noticed its unawareness of spiritual values, and its empty pews. He is astonished at the bias of the World Council of Churches who promote revolutionary movements in the Third World while remaining blind and deaf to the persecution of religion which is carried out relentlessly in the Soviet Union. For Dr Billy Graham, his predecessor in receipt of the Templeton Prize, who went to Moscow and said that he had noticed no persecution of religion, he merely asked for God to be the judge.

Fashionable opinion might be tempted to dismiss Solzhenitsyn as an embittered exile whose religious enthusiasm, born under Soviet oppression, is inappropriate for the liberal societies in the West. Fashionable opinion, as so often, would be wrong. True, he sees his important work as being the need to speak to those he left behind in mother Russia. True, he may have found it difficult to adjust to the wants-and-all aspects of a free society where self-indulgence, without corresponding sense of responsibility, often threatens to become mere licence. But these are minor qualifications when compared to the core of his message about the importance of an awareness of

the spirit of man, and the danger of ignoring it.

Solzhenitsyn has lived in a society whose authorities are inspired solely by the materialist ideal. The Soviet system is based on the explicit denial of the rights of an individual, which is so grounded in the tradition of Judeo-Christian ethics. Where the state is sovereign, there can be no place for any other religion. There is no rational method to counter this kind of ideology. It can be challenged and contained by a corresponding act of faith, but only faith. To reason with such Marxist implacability is to concede to it.

What worries Solzhenitsyn is the lack of evidence that the West possesses this kind of faith. He starts with the organized churches. No wonder he is disappointed. Denominational religion has come to place so much emphasis on the idea of community – over against that of the individual within the community – that there is often little to choose between the ethos of collective theology and that of collective materialism. Perhaps this emphasis on the communal ideal springs from a basic sense of weakness in the churches, who hope it will make up for a lack of cohesion based simply on an assertion of faith.

But there is no substitute for faith, and faith can never be a collective endowment. The inner life of an individual is not determined by social factors, otherwise he would merely be a foot soldier in a statistician's army. The trouble with the West, which Solzhenitsyn rightly per-

STAYING ON TARGET

Government departments went on a small spending spree at the end of the last financial year. Central government borrowing was £2,750m in March, much higher than expected and a turnaround of more than £3,000m compared with the surplus in March, 1982. This had the usual effect on money supply growth. In April sterling M3 – the broad measure of money which continues to attract most comment – went up by almost 2 per cent, a rate of growth which, if continued in future months, would cause a large overshoot on official targets. There is increasing suspicion and concern that the government is allowing financial control to slip ahead of the general election.

The anxiety should not be overdone. The burst of spending in March was intended to offset previous underspending. In the 1982-83 financial year as a whole the public sector borrowing requirement was £9,200m compared to an original estimate of £9,500m, while money supply growth of about 12 per cent was broadly consistent with the target of 8 to 12 per cent. Indeed, the final numbers confirm the feasibility of financial targets and tend to vindicate this approach to economic management.

There were, in any case, plausible arguments for a little carelessness with financial control at the end of 1982-83. Last autumn unemployment was rising quickly because of the intensification of the world recession, while the targets for both the budget deficit and the money supply were being met comfortably. The targets give the Government some room for manoeuvre. It was understandable that a minor relaxation

should be engineered to promote domestic demand and ease the unemployment problem.

The episode demonstrates that the specification of targets does not reduce monetary policy to an exercise for computers and robots. There is still scope for political judgment and administrative discretion. The question now is whether the Government should have a strict or casual attitude towards the targets for the current financial year. These targets are for a public sector borrowing requirement of £8,500m and money supply growth of between 7 and 11 per cent.

The case for strict adherence to the guidelines is that, if they are missed, confidence in the Government's anti-inflation stand would be undermined. The loss of credibility might by itself complicate the task of inflation control because of the effect on foreign sentiment and so on the exchange rate. Moreover, the interest rate reductions already in place have contributed to a quite strong recovery in the economy. Signs of an upturn are still multiplying, with the March retail sales and housebuilding figures being the latest evidence.

But the recovery has not yet been sufficient to stem the rise in unemployment. There was an underlying increase of 22,000 in April, not significantly different from the typical monthly change in 1982. A further cut in interest rates seems to be justified to prevent the situation deteriorating further. With the building societies reporting longer mortgage queues because of a shortage of funds, there should be no doubt about the effectiveness of an interest rate cut as a stimulant to business activity. The societies' inflows of money

would strengthen, they would have no difficulty in lending it out and extra impetus would be given to housebuilding and certain types of consumption.

This method of assisting the recovery would not endanger the target for public sector borrowing in 1983-84 since, unlike the widely-canvassed proposal for fiscal retrenchment, there would be no effect on public expenditure. It might lead to an increase in the private sector's demand for bank credit and eventually this would cause an acceleration of money supply growth, but for the time being bank lending to the private sector is weak.

The position is finely balanced. But the case for a small reduction in interest rates seems more persuasive than the case for a small increase or no change. The bad April money supply figures reflect a once-for-all and clearly identifiable special influence, while the most recent rise in the unemployment total indicates the continuation of a genuine and deeply worrying trend. The Government might nevertheless be unwise to sanction a fall in clearing bank base rates before the election because the charge of financial gerrymandering would inevitably – and damagingly – be levelled against it.

It should be pointed out that the latest economic developments, with a simultaneous strengthening in business activity and decline in inflation, validate the Government's emphasis on financial targets. The Labour Party and the Alliance seem to have much less faith in them. It would be a tragedy if these methods of control were to be abandoned after the election, just as they are beginning to work and to be respected because they work.

It is right to take care over the framing and presentation of the question. Above all, it must be made clear that the question is about race as distinct from immigration. But in fact much of the committee's anxiety seems misconceived. The controversy which led to the omission of a question in 1981 turned largely on a test census done in Haringey, which was used by some pressure groups as an opportunity to play on minority fears. But in spite of all the campaigning the result did not show that such a question was widely unacceptable to racial minorities. Whether race relations improve or deteriorate in the next few years it is probable (and desirable) that minority communities will become more ready and more able to put census information to good use. Knowledge is power, and it is in their clear interest to secure and use it.

THE ETHNIC QUESTION

Raising their eyes beyond June 9 for one last time, the about-to-be-scattered MPs of the Commons home affairs committee have bequeathed to the nation a report about a problem which will probably not arise before 1991. There may not be many votes in the next decade next month, but it is a sensible and persuasive report. Indeed, almost all significant public voices in the field have been persuaded already – persuaded that the national census ought in future to contain the question about ethnic origins timidly left off in 1981. The only doubt seems to be whether the thousands of heads of households who will actually fill in the census forms can also be persuaded; and that is the thing that matters. If they refused or lied in large numbers, then the whole census might be impaired.

The more complex a society is, the more it needs reliable information about its own condition to allow sensible policy decisions to be made (and, in passing, the stronger the case becomes to keep the data up-to-date with mid-term censuses like the one proposed for 1986 and now under threat). Granted that the state is well-intentioned,

promise to destroy the individual forms which carry names and addresses, once the generalized data has been fed into the computer. These forms, held for a century in a confidentiality which has never yet been betrayed, eventually become precious material for the historian.

It is right to take care over the framing and presentation of the question. Above all, it must be made clear that the question is about race as distinct from immigration. But in fact much of the committee's anxiety seems misconceived. The controversy which led to the omission of a question in 1981 turned largely on a test census done in Haringey, which was used by some pressure groups as an opportunity to play on minority fears. But in spite of all the campaigning the result did not show that such a question was widely unacceptable to racial minorities. Whether race relations improve or deteriorate in the next few years it is probable (and desirable) that minority communities will become more ready and more able to put census information to good use. Knowledge is power, and it is in their clear interest to secure and use it.

But how many members of those minorities do grant that the state is well-intentioned towards them? How many are quite sure that it will remain so, when it is responsive to a public opinion that often seems hostile? It would be better to drop the question than to risk significant distortion of the invaluable overall survey. The report stresses the importance of framing an ethnic question in ways that do not seem threatening, and of laying public reassurance on thick. It even proposes one gesture of conciliation which would only be justifiable as a last resort in face of an imminent threat of major disruption – a

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Union recognition and divers' strike

From the General Secretary of the Engineers' and Managers' Association

Sir, That North Sea divers organised by the Professional Divers' Association have been taking direct action in order to win the right to union recognition with their employers, is a direct consequence of the Government's decision in 1980 to abolish the previously established balloting arrangements used to assist in the determination of recognition disputes. In five years he is recruiting 2,300 more prison officers, many of whom will be paid well over £10,000 a year, but they supervise fewer than three prisoners on average.

On another page it is reported that in the next three years there will be only 150 more probation officers (earning rather less). But each of them commonly supervises at least 30 offenders in the community, besides numerous other duties including helping prisoners and their families.

We strongly support the divers in their claim for recognition from their employers. There would soon be no good reasons for Sub-Sea Offshore, the US company which employs them, to refuse to recognise them for bargaining purposes.

I write, however, to draw attention at the beginning of the run-up to the election to the callous attitude of this Government to trade union ballots.

Any casual follower of their industrial relations policies could easily have imagined that the Government is always in favour of balloting to ascertain workers' opinions as the only basis of legitimate action. However, when it came to the arrangements they inherited, under which people could ballot as to whether they wanted their employer to recognise their union or association for collective bargaining purposes, that ballot mechanism was happily scrapped.

As we predicted at the time, this would lead sooner or later to the aggravation of recognition disputes, and that is exactly what is happening over the divers' recognition claim at the present time.

I wonder if, in their election manifesto, the Conservative Party will propose, alongside any other balloting proposals they may have in mind, to reintroduce ballots for recognition claims?

Yours sincerely,

JOHN LYONS, General Secretary, Engineers' and Managers' Association

Station House, Fox Lane North, Chertsey, Surrey. May 10.

No easy exit

From Dr Mary Stopes-Roe

Sir, Two points come to mind with reference to Bernard Levin's philosphising and moralising (May 5) on the subject of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's booklet.

A person in stressful circumstances who knows that she or he can control and use a means of ending the unpleasant situation is far more likely to put up with it for longer, if there are good reasons for doing so.

Further, and at a different level, I wonder about the good sense of suggesting that morals should be based on instincts. Self-preservation, or the "instinct" to stay alive, is powerful; so are many of our other "instincts", and we spend a good deal of moral energy combating them.

On this basis, his rather unpleasing reference to the New Testament turn round and bites him.

But in talking about "self-deliverance" we are not concerned with instincts at all, but with very complex relationships between social and emotional forces taking place in that poorly understood entity, the "self".

I for one am reluctant to impose strictures on any one else's personal "self" decisions. I believe access to information and advice is far more likely to help than preaching to the desperate about vessels that must be kept upright.

Yours faithfully,

MARY STOPES-ROE, 155 Moor Green Lane, Moseley, Birmingham.

Grand National fund

From Mrs B. M. Somerset-Jones

Sir, I see from today's edition (May 5) that insufficient funds were raised for the Grand National course at Aintree.

A golden opportunity was lost on the day of the big race. On the busiest day, Saturday, the weather was sunny and thousands of people went along to Aintree and did the customary walk round the course and picnicked.

I am sure that many people would have made a donation had there been collecting boxes and perhaps the winners would have put in an extra pound or two.

It requires much more effort to write out and post a cheque once the event is over.

Yours faithfully,

B. M. SOMERSET-JONES, Southmead, Mill Lane, Wistanstow, Cheshire.

Living up Greenwich

From Mr Anthony Bailey and others

Sir, Mr Simon Jenkins's recent suggestion (feature, April 28) that the South Bank be livened up with stalls and a street market is a good one. Here in Greenwich, on the council-owned Bunney Street site in the town centre, not far from the greatest concentration of baroque architecture in Britain, a cheerful weekend open-air market has been one of the positive things to come out of failure – over some 22 years – to develop the site; other useful by-products of this neglect are a community-created garden, and a car park without which local shops, restaurants, and the Greenwich Theatre would be severely crippled.

Now, however, Greenwich Council's Housing Committee has decided to apply for planning permission to develop the four-acre site entirely for suburban-scale housing, in the process doing away with car park and market.

Cost-effectiveness and crowded jails

From Mr Martin Wright

Sir, Mr Whitelaw's humane concern to relieve prison overcrowding (feature, May 5) does him credit but he clings to the most costly and least effective policy for doing so, while professing support for non-custodial sanctions.

In five years he is recruiting 2,300 more prison officers, many of whom will be paid well over £10,000 a year, but they supervise fewer than three prisoners on average.

On another page it is reported that in the next three years there will be only 150 more probation officers (earning rather less).

Probation initiatives are also stymied by the funding system: unless they can extract 20 per cent of the cost from beleaguered local authorities, the Home Office hangs on to its 80 per cent.

If each probation area were offered (with suitable conditions) say £3,000 from central funds for every reduction below its predicted prison population, we should all be

better off. There might even be a lower reconviction rate.

Yours sincerely,

MARTIN WRIGHT, 107 Palace Road, SW1. May 6.

From Lord Hylton

Sir, The Home Secretary (feature, May 5) strongly defends his record. Certainly he has started more prison-building and modernization of obsolete jails than most of his predecessors. Many, however, will find it strange that he did not mention extending parole to offenders serving medium and short sentences. Such a measure would significantly reduce the prison population within one year.

Mr Whitelaw did not refer to the importance of removing alcoholics, drug addicts and the mentally ill from prison to adequately secure places where they can receive urgent medical treatment and care. One also looked in vain for a mention of the need for more bail hostsels to accommodate prisoners on remand, especially those of no fixed address.

Policies of this kind will of course be expensive and will involve departments other than the Home Office. I believe they will prove cheaper in the long run than merely enlarging a prison system which frustrates both staff and inmates and discharges some prisoners in a worse state than when they entered.

You reported on page 2 of the same day that the probation service will receive an extra £1m instead of the £5m that is thought necessary for implementing non-custodial sentences under the recent Criminal Justice Act. Let us all demand rational penal expenditure instead of an ever-growing prison system, which already costs more per prisoner than public school education.

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
House of Lords.

Conservative view on nuclear force

From Mr John Wilkinson, MP for Ruislip-Northwood (Conservative)

Sir, I am surprised that Mr Anthony Verrier (letter, May 10), who has taken such a consistent interest in defence, should so seriously misinterpret Conservative attitudes to nuclear strategy.

First, the fact that there have been nuclear bases in East Anglia and elsewhere in Britain for over a generation, makes less understandable rather than more the opposition of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and of the Labour Party to the stationing of cruise missiles in this country. Secondly, Mr Verrier asserts that mutual deterrence is not impaired if one superpower has a measurable "superiority" in a particular category of nuclear weapons. This is not true at any level.

At the tactical level nuclear superiority on the part of the USSR complemented by intermediate range and strategic equivalence between the superpowers could conceivably render a Soviet nuclear blitzkrieg a valid policy option.

Soviet superiority in intermediate range nuclear forces, unless reduced by Nato, could in the view of Soviet planners decouple the United States' nuclear guarantee of Western European security since, in the absence of adequate theatre nuclear forces, the United States would risk nuclear retaliation on its homeland if it invoked its strategic arsenal in response to a theatre level.

Lastly, the possession of an adequate strategic nuclear deterrent is the cornerstone of what should be a symmetrical arch of nuclear deterrence whose twin pillars are sufficient tactical and theatre nuclear forces and whose foundation is an adequate conventional defence.

The strategic nuclear component of our defences ensures that there is no advantage to a potential aggressor in either a resort to strategic nuclear blackmail or to the first use of nuclear weapons. Its effect, therefore, is to inhibit the use or threat of nuclear weapons as a credible option by an offensive power. It short it helps to preserve peace.

The French Socialist Government, in response to Mr Andropov's latest offer on intermediate nuclear forces arms control, has rightly insisted that France's nuclear forces are not negotiable. The overall effectiveness of the Western Alliance's deterrent is enhanced by having two supplementary centres of nuclear decision in Western Europe.

The additional uncertainty in gauging the British and French nuclear response to a Soviet attack of any kind which put at risk the sovereignty of Britain or France undoubtedly helps to restrain most effectively the Soviet designs upon Britain, which Mr Verrier acknowledges.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILKINSON,
House of Commons.
May 10.

Better railway policy

From Lord Tanlaw

Sir, The Chairman of the British Railways Board, in a recent address to the Chartered Institute of Transport, pointed the way towards the "better railway". Apparently the signs point to be found in the Serpell report, described similarly by the Minister of Transport as "a stepping stone... towards the better railway". The report has based its main recommendations on closure of between 2,000 and 3,000 miles of railway track.

I understand that, after a closure notice has been served, the department has two years in which to decide the future of a defunct railway line. If no directive is

Today's Office

Office managements are now recognising that electronic technology is the key to improved performance. Allied to this is better designed furniture and lighting.

Derek Harris reports

The concept of the paperless office, relying on a combination of computers, microelectronics and telecommunications, has created a good deal of euphoria in its time. Many companies have jumped on the electronic bandwagon - there are well over a hundred selling word processors alone in Britain - and their forceful salesmanship no doubt made its contribution.

That phase is largely over; it is accepted that the electronic revolution will not occur overnight. Nor will there be a sudden move towards the really sophisticated systems furniture which takes account of future needs like those of the electronic office although refinement of existing furniture systems has made big strides in improving work conditions.

Many offices, however, still boast no more than some electric typewriters, a few photocopiers and perhaps a television set capable of calling up the Prestel viewdata service.

Investments of up to £20,000 in capital equipment per worker are common in manufacturing industry while in offices still going their old-fashioned way investment per head can be little more than £1,000 in equipment.

In a recession, when survival is all, it has not been easy to take a longer view. But just as manufacturers are increasingly realising that automation can increase their chances of success, office managements are recognising that advanced information and voice processing are the key to improved performance.

World-wide sales of advanced office equipment last year have been put at £3,000m. This year a United Kingdom market worth £48m is the expectation of Butler, Cox and Partners, a leading UK office automation consultancy. This estimate was made after a £250,000 survey commissioned by the Department of Industry with five leading electronics companies (the survey is *The Market for Office Technology*, £20,000 from Butler Cox or 01 583-9381).

By 1987 the UK market could be worth £320m, Butler Cox believes. Between now and then the British market is expected to generate £800m in sales out of a West European total of £2,900m.

The survey, carried out over 18 months and produced at the turn of the year, is cautious in its projections. It discounts the likelihood of a white-hot revolution over the next few years: "Technologies, products, applications and supplier strategies will evolve. Customers will learn how to apply office technology slowly and often painfully."

Nevertheless, by 1987 the UK market for advanced office systems could represent 15 per cent of the vast market for information technology, from data processing systems to telecommunications.

Data terminals and videotext systems are likely to sell best at first, the survey suggests. But by 1987 there should be a £103m market for terminals integrating text, data, voice and pictures - the full professional workstation.

By that year more than 60 per cent of clerical workers (though only 12 per cent of managers) will be using an electronic terminal in their offices, the survey forecasts. But it mostly leaves out of account the specialised sector of the office furniture market which caters for the demands of the electronic office. This is the systems furniture sector, which this year could add at least £50m more in value to the recession lifts.

More recent studies suggest that there is some 44 million square metres of commercial office space in England alone, with around 6 per cent more being added annually. Most offices are still comparatively small.

Some 9 million people work in offices, well over a third of the country's workforce.

The latest investigation into the prospects for change in the office is the Orbit study* on information technology and design. Its sponsors include the Department of Industry and British Telecom.

The study says the scope for growth in use of information technology is vast. World market forecasts of an increase in sales volume of 15 per cent a year are now being made. Orbit points out: "This could mean an increase of nearly half in real terms over five years."

Some products, such as word processors, are increasing sales by value at twice that rate, all the more impressive because prices have been falling during the difficult period of the recession.

EOSY's office systems consultants, who are joint publishers of the Orbit study, surveyed 20 companies and found that most were expecting to increase their expenditure on office automation. The biggest increase was expected in desktop systems like word processors and microprocessors.

Some 70 per cent of those surveyed expected to spend more on items like these.

Orbit says: "One of the most obvious manifestations in the normal working areas of offices will be more workstations. These will be similar to today's microcomputers, word processors and visual display units, but with increasing sophistication, wider ranging capabilities, more customisation to meet the needs of different users and a greater emphasis in managerial and professional workstations."

"This will bring a rapid increase in the requirement to link workstations so that they can be used for electronic mail and to access databases."

Multi-task workstations are expected for one in six office

The big change facing most clerical workers

workers within five to 10 years with one workstation for every three office workers in 10 to 15 years. Some sectors will embrace the new technology more quickly than others, Orbit suggests. In the finance sector one workstation is expected for every six employees within five years. Some companies already have more.

Nevertheless the study accepts that paper will be around for many years yet. Electronic filing is expected to account for less than half of stored documents for the next 15 years.

Similar conservative predictions are made about voice and text storage, store and forward message systems and about the transmission of document by digital means.

There are still some constraints to the rate of introduction of new technology into the office, Orbit concludes. Despite progressively cheaper systems, the cost and lack of standardisation are still real barriers.

More and more multinational companies have nevertheless been moving into office automation. IBM and Apple, two of the best known names in computers, recently launched new microcomputers as the cornerstones of their electronic office systems. Wang is already deeply involved in the office market. So is Rank Xerox UK.

There are already 180,000 personal computers in use in British business establishments, according to the National Business Equipment Survey (NBES). The market could increase by a half this year. NBES suggests.

Faximile transmission is another big growth area, according to Mr Gautam Barua, director of NBES. Kalle Infotech, part of Hoechst, and ITT have been making much of the running recently but other contenders include Rank Xerox and, among the Japanese, National Panasonic and Canon.

A bewildering array of companies are vying for part of the office automation business. It is blurring the old boundaries between computers, telecommunication and general electronics.

NBES. Among the Japanese makers Canon had 9 per cent market share and U-Bix 9 per cent with Minolta at 7 per cent.

The revolution rolls on, but there are obvious hurdles. Office buildings are ill-equipped to take the wiring complexity, extra weight and additional heat of the new machines. Office staff and managers also have personally to adapt to the new equipment. That has raised many questions from fatigue and health to the ergonomic design of equipment and the provision of adequate lighting. But the Orbit study does make this point: "Although there are some exceptions, most studies of staff reaction to working with new equipment show a high level of satisfaction and a growing sense of confidence and job involvement."

*The Orbit Study: Information Technology and Office Design: £200 from DEGW, 8-9 Building Place, Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5FW.

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Have you started an office automation system or merely bought a word processor?



Mighty oaks from tiny acorns grow.
And office automation systems from humble beginnings can start.

You may just be installing word processing or electronic mail today.

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WORD PROCESSORS

Loving the machine more than the boss

Technology often has the frustrating tendency to lead, rather than follow the market, and this was endorsed in a recent survey produced by the UK Information and Word Processing Association (IWP).

The main conclusions from the survey indicated that 1983 will be another year of high sales growth for word processors and office computers. However the equipment users are still faced with a host of problems which make selection and implementation difficult. The IWP survey highlighted in particular:

- the difficulty in justifying the cost of buying systems
- the widening choice of hardware further complicated by the overlapping capabilities of microcomputers and dedicated word processors
- the need for more advanced communications facilities

The respondents were drawn from 700 word processor users, and 88 per cent said they were planning to acquire more word processing equipment this year. The overriding criterion for selection was reliability, and price was of secondary importance behind such factors as ease of learning, and the vendor's ability to provide future integrated office systems.

Secretaries were seen as almost unanimous in welcoming the introduction of the word processor (wp) and there was a

trend in training wp operators more through in-house instruction and self-taught packages, with little emphasis on suppliers' training courses.

The IWP has often criticized the after-sales service in such areas as training by the manufacturers and according to Horace Mitchell, their national programmes officer, there is a distinct and definite shift towards the supplier "unbundling" training and customer support, and charging for it, if offering it at all". The IWP does not enjoy witnessing this trend, but appreciate this has created an opportunity for other businesses to supplement this manufacturers' neglect.

Secretaries will have access to better information through IT, and using their ideas and information is every bit as important as word processor selection. Gale Chitson, a secretary with Truman Ltd, the brewing part of Grand Met, the marketing authority, when his secretary Jan, got her Adler word processor.

"She insisted that I sit down with her and understand what this machine could, and could not, do to help me" says Wilson who admits to having been reticent about the introduction of IT into his offices. He was completely convinced within a day, as "the effect on improved productivity was instant", says Wilson. "She loves her machine, more than

tial of word processors, was emphasized by Aubrey Wilson, the marketing authority, when his secretary Jan, got her Adler word processor.

"She insisted that I sit down with her and understand what this machine could, and could not, do to help me" says Wilson who admits to having been reticent about the introduction of IT into his offices. He was completely convinced within a day, as "the effect on improved productivity was instant", says Wilson. "She loves her machine, more than

her boss unfortunately, but it was the way it was introduced that was just as vital as the choice of equipment".

Unions do not like to be bombarded with change and new technology and Leslie Robert, the Nalgo official who is chairman of Brent Council's joint negotiating committee, considers there is much more scope for managers, users and trade union representatives to sit down and discuss the opportunities of new technology before it is bought.

He says: "We have had

situations in Brent where equipment has arrived and been introduced without consultation and users' job roles and tasks have been changed without consent. This is the wrong way to introduce office automation - agreements must be reached first."

The traditional division of labour between executive and secretary is close to collapse, according to John Pardoe, the former Liberal MP who is now MD of Sight and Sound, the office training organization. Sight and Sound is the largest keyboard training organization in the world, with 11 colleges in the UK, and is about to become one of the largest managing agents under the Government's new youth training scheme. He says there is an urgent need for executives to overcome the prejudice of class and gender that invariably assigns keyboard functions to female secretaries, but even the IWP survey found that over 50 per cent of their respondents "foresee difficulties for managers using work stations".

Sight and Sound gives programmed tuition in keyboarding and appreciation to operators of computer application, an essential training at a time when word processors are becoming increasingly more advanced.

In 1979, Olympia International launched the world's first standard electronic typewriter, and now four years later has seen the innovation of screen extensions to that typewriter. These offer the facilities of a dedicated word processor at a fraction of the price and mean that hitherto "dead end" standard typewriters are now readily upgradable.

"Details available from Quadrat, telephone 01-242 8607

station word processing systems and, if purchased with the standard electronic typewriter, can mean a complete screen-based text-processing system for less than £1,800.

WORDNET has also produced its 2,000, the missing link which can connect up to eight different typewriters, golfball or electronic with any make of word processor. Costing less than £24 per typewriter input station per week, it brings the technology within reach of many smaller organizations which, according to the IWP survey had previously found it difficult to justify the cost of wp equipment.

New electronic interfaces are now being launched like Olivetti's OCTET KSR/MSR, which can be used as an adjunct to its standard ET 121 electronic typewriter. This enables the typewriter to be used as a letter-quality printer for a micro, and adds a further 4,000 characters to the ET's one line memory. It also enables the typewriter to "communicate" with a third party such as another Olivetti machine, telex tape, or word processor.

Many offices still only have dictating machines, but this is changing as the manufacturers, like Philips and Dictaphone, extend their interests into word processors and other areas of office automation. Dictaphone's centralized dictation systems are today no longer the desk-top machines with hunting devices of 10 years ago, but are purpose designed systems capable of getting words direct from the author's desk to the typist, and back, as quickly as possible.

But the complexity of equipment on the market, usually in digital disguise, confuses the users. With a tendency to concentrate on selling rather than service, complacency within the IT industry breeds contempt in its potential users.

"User friendliness" may be the topical theme for the manufacturers, but as the IWP survey has endorsed, too many users only see this "friendliness" up to the buying stage, and very little thereafter. If only they appreciated how important the secretary was to an organization's office automation strategy then manufacturers might extend their "friendliness" long after they have sold their product.

"Details available from Quadrat, telephone 01-242 8607

Lynda King Taylor

INFORMATION

Why executives feel the pinch

The average office worker is interrupted every 17 minutes. True office automation, says Dr Rich Schneider, manager of market planning and development for Data General, has to consider this problem at all levels of office work.

Typing represents only one per cent of an office's budget, according to Schneider, five per cent on the professional, managerial and executive level. A company which is considering word and data processing in isolation from the activities of the office as a whole, is, Dr Schneider says, "ignoring cost effectiveness and also ignoring executive communications resource they should be."

Information is a corporate resource, and as such, office automation has to deal with the managing of information from a total corporate perspective.

According to a recent survey by the Information and Word Processing Association (IWP), few companies have an office automation strategy and few executives want to operate VDUs or work stations.

A recent experiment, by a UK subsidiary of IBM involving groups of managers and secretaries, tested how executives and other professionals accept the "paperless office". It confirmed that in most cases, the transition from pen or pencil to fully integrated work station by executives was seldom beyond the experimental stage.

This experiment, and a survey by Booz Allen and Hamilton showed that executives, in the main, are remarkably unwilling to use new forms of office equipment personally; even the dictating machine, which can produce dramatic gains in productivity, has not penetrated the upper echelons to any great extent.

Executives, it seems, appear to be poor estimators of how they actually spend their time. Booz Allen consultants found wide discrepancies between executives' estimates of how long they expected to spend on a variety of activities and the time actually taken.

Executives expressed apprehension about their abilities to use information technology (IT) systems. This is obviously something manufacturers must worry about if their dream of having a VDU on every executive's desk by the end of the decade is to become reality.

Alan Benjamin, the chairman of IT Year 82 and director of communication of CAP Group, feels that for executives to accept office automation, "there will need to be a major development by the suppliers to make systems for managers much more friendly, and flexible, than they are now. This means that information will have to be accessible in the form which the manager recognises.

In human terms, today's computer is a spoon-fed idiot, but how many manufacturers

blurb actually illustrate this? Sales literature expounds the powerful ability of the computer to calculate, with a faultless memory and even a communication prowess. It fails to emphasize that the computer cannot think, reason, interpret, or make decisions.

David Burt, deputy managing director of Hellermann Deutsch, the electrical connector manufacturers, says that if manufacturers made IT more "personal", more executives would be willing to accept change. All too often, say Burt and Benjamin, executives are made to feel that their jobs are being eroded by the introduction of elusive thinking machines - and that the computer is capable of putting a hundred years' thought into every management decision, which is simply not true.

The key to increased productivity and a sound future is by using new technology and, according to Pacetel [the computer and telecommunications arm of PA International Management Consultants], by "managed innovation". Stuart Excel of Pacetel says that tight financial control does not necessarily entail a sound economy, and that "by necessity, companies have to study the impact of technological change on their corporate strategy... the lesson is that organisations can no longer leave technology to the R & D boys. Directors must study and understand the impact of technological change on their corporate strategy, and indeed play a part in defining an overall technical strategy".

But according to executives like Benjamin and Burt, manufacturers make it very difficult for them to answer such questions as:

- What technologies should I invest in to remain competitive tomorrow?
- Who will be my future competitors?
- Where will my competitive markets be in the future?

● What sort of executives should I be recruiting for this organisation in five years time?

Willie Jamieson, senior manager of Arthur Andersen's Consultancy Division says the key challenge to executives is the role of middle managers in the future. How is middle management to be used when, acquired by senior executives themselves through office automation, this level of management could effectively be dispensed with and the work disappear. Jamieson says that if secretaries and support staff have better access to information, then their job roles will be "upgraded" squeezing the middle managers above.

It is imperative, therefore, according to Jamieson, that corporate IT strategies look toward the future recruitment and planning policies.

This is particularly important with middle managers, for continued on page 19



Hugh Channon, administration manager of the Arthur Andersen company, where office automation has rapidly changed from being just a sales story for word processing to become a major investment area for the company.



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OFFICE FURNITURE

Design for more work and a lot less waste

The office furniture market, now worth at least £100m a year, has been shrugging off the effects of recession in a way the rest of the furniture industry has envied. Furniture sales overall have been depressed for two years, with improvement coming in only at the end of last year. The office furniture market, however, grew last year by 8 per cent.

But a far bigger growth than this has come in that part of the office furniture market which represents the leading edge of designs and techniques. This is the systems sector which produces furniture in a more complex way to accommodate the demands not only of the electronic office but a working environment calculated to improve productivity while adding to individual comfort and convenience.

The best systems also look far enough ahead to allow scope for the inevitable changes which will come in as electronic and other systems proliferate in offices over the rest of this decade.

The systems market, in which there are now more than a score of manufacturers in Britain with some of them offshoots of the overseas giants, last year grew at twice the rate of the office furniture market overall, according to National Business Equipment Survey (NBES). NBES puts the sector's annual sales value at about £50m although some manufacturers put the value as high as £70m compared with possibly £130m for the office furniture market overall.

According to a recent survey, copier machines are fast overtaking the work of duplicators in America's offices. The study made by Predictics Inc, a business information company based at Cleveland, Ohio, shows that the most rapid growth is in plain paper copiers replacing coated paper electrostatic machines as well as offset duplicators.

The same message comes from the UK market, with copiers becoming more compact, cheaper and more capable than ever before and, as a result, more popular, writes Lynda King Taylor.

Technology has improved copy quality and reliability and has allowed for the inclusion of intricate and specialized features on even low volume equipment.

In a Times' survey for this report, copy quality was regarded as the most important requirement by firms considering buying a copier, whether a simple desk top model or a high

systems sales have eased in the past few months but NBES believes that this year will see up to an 18 per cent increase, with the overall office furniture market up between 12 and 13 per cent.

Entirely British companies account for about a third of the turnover in the systems market.

Among them are Ronco Vickers,

and Lucas Furniture Systems,

both among the top five

producers of systems furniture.

Newer entrants include Projects

Office Furniture, part of the

Bullock Group and Britain's

largest manufacturer of wooden

office furniture, G. A.

Harvey of Margate which has

been attracting trade attention

with its latest range of systems

furniture.

But the market leader is

Herman Miller, a United States

based company but now with a

substantial production presence

in Britain, with two factories in

Bath. Miller claims a 30 per

cent market share in panel-

based systems. Treading close

to Miller in market share are

offshoots of two other United

States companies: Steelcase and

Westinghouse Electric.

Steelcase is the world's largest

producer of office furniture and

its European subsidiary is

Steelcase Straton, including a

strong French interest with

production facilities in France.

Westinghouse has production

facilities in the Irish Republic.

It is the systems makers

which especially have addressed

themselves to the problem of

the unproductive office. There

have been estimates that typists

and secretaries spend only 15

per cent of their time actually typing letters and documents, with general administration accounting for 25 per cent of time, being away from the desk another 20 per cent, telephoning 10 per cent and probably another 10 per cent doing not very much. Chasing up records and files can also eat up much time.

The file of systems furniture has changed dramatically since the time when the office

furniture industry simply provided people with desks, chairs and cupboards, according to Mr Neville Osrin, Steelcase's marketing manager in the United Kingdom.

He said: "One factor has been the trend towards office automation with the electronic office as the ultimate development. But there is also a growing awareness that the environmental supports within an office, including the furni-

ture, do play a part in improving productivity."

He added: "Productive work-

time is the key. We are finding

that by using furniture which is

responsive to change the amount

of money required to keep

productivity at an acceptable

level is very much less."

Most offices were still grossly

ill-equipped to adapt to the new

technologies coming in.

The aim of all systems furniture is to cope with the

ducting of electrical wiring for new electric equipment, often providing lighting suitable for work at visual display units, together with layouts and ergonomic seating which increase efficiency and reduce fatigue.

As much as two hours work-time a day can be lost through distractions, according to Mr Osrin. In open-plan offices there was need to tackle problems like lack of privacy, lack of opportunity to concentrate and poor acoustical control.

An entirely cellular office is not necessarily the only answer because varying degrees of privacy can be achieved by using panels of varying heights.

Research back-up is the strong suit of companies like Steelcase which even employ professional advisors to look into the psychology of workers in offices faced with change.

"Offices are about people essentially", said Mr Osrin.

Although he expects the impact of microtechnology on the office to be enormous in the next few years, Mr Osrin questions how far there will be more working at workstations in the home or in community work centres. "That is a generation away", he said.

Lucas has developed its systems range after lengthy and continuing consultation with leading computer, telecommunications and microelectronic systems makers worldwide, according to Mr Jack Lucas, the company's marketing director.

With most office furniture makers developing their sys-

tems either from a wood manufacturing base or a steel construction base, Lucas has aimed at a balance between the elements of wood and steel. He added: "Britons seem to like wood better; it is a more traditional view."

"Suddenly the corporate world has much less room for the middle managers", says Leyland L. Fors, a principal of management consultants A. T. Kearney in New York, who estimates that middle management positions around the world have declined by 15 per cent on average over the past three years.

A solution to this, according to Parry Rogers, personnel director of Plessey, is to split companies into smaller groups. This motivates middle managers. So instead of filtering information and preparing decisions for other people to take, middle managers at Plessey have found themselves running their own small businesses in the group, with substantial delegated authority.

Office Planning Consultants (OPC) also endorse the need for corporate strategies at boardroom level when considering the effect of office automation on executives... "office planning is often wrongly equated solely with space planning and layout, but properly practised it embraces every aspect of administration, whether it is corporate strategy, systems and procedures, job output or job satisfaction".

Alan Frost, general manager of Philips Wood Processing, believes that one of the most vexed choices, particularly for the smaller company, is between two competing items of electronic machinery "should one buy a dedicated word processor, or micro computer with a word processing package?"

According to David Burt, "the content of manufacturer's literature is almost all technical, and many executives wishing to know more about IT may find it uncomfortable to have to contemplate something they do not really understand".

Standard Telephones & Cables have tried to overcome this executive phobia by having a special demonstration centre in central London which aims to present, in a non-technical way, the merits of office automation for the businessman and the potential of information transfer technology.

There could be another answer: the winner of the Philips Business Systems competition to design the office of 2000 AD had all his IT at his fingertips in a brief case.

LKT

Feeling the pinch

continued from page 18



Neville Osrin: the electronic office is the ultimate aim

Living up to the lavish literature

COPIERS

towards decentralization favours the low and medium volume sectors, with companies like Canon, U-Bix, Minolta, and Sharp competing with a myriad of models and modifications.

Some companies, like U-Bix, a subsidiary of the Mitsubishi Corporation, have grown considerably over the last few years, and U-Bix will be launching two new plain paper copiers this month as well as two new desktop machines. U-Bix has a good reputation for after sales service probably because its dealer network is carefully chosen.

Competition also breeds fiercer price wars, with even the prices of new copiers being discounted. In trying to maintain profits, more and more manufacturers are selling

their sales and service staff sufficiently and with the proliferation of features and gimmicks on machines even the dealers themselves were sometimes not aware of changes to product ranges.

There is such a spectrum of styles on the market from the recently launched AP 1600 auto printer by Ricoh, a Japanese company, which offers reprographic packages for the smaller business to the world's smallest photocopier, the Sirius PC16 by ACT Office Product, measuring just 16in by 18in by 7.2in. This typewriter-sized model is, according to Terry Lloyd, managing director of ACT, indicative of "a new trend towards decentralization of office equipment".

These machines will also

appeal to the customer whose workload is not so great and who previously would have found it difficult to justify a large machine. Maintenance is virtually eliminated with this type of machine, and one can even get copies in a range of colours, black, brown and blue.

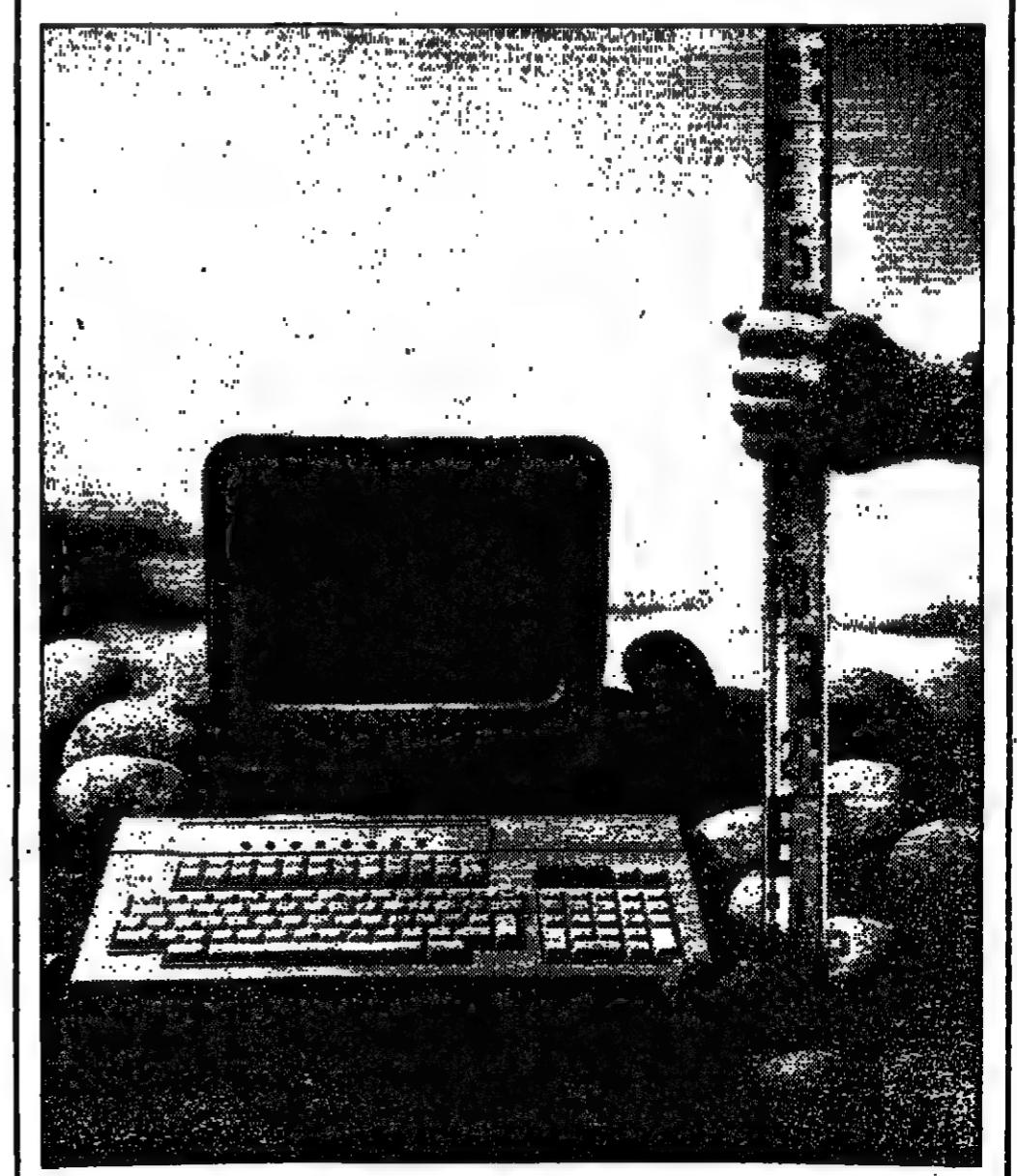
Minolta is also introducing a new range of plain paper copiers at the Copiers '83 exhibition, to be held at the Cunard International Hotel, London W6, May 17-20, and is another example of a Japanese company sweeping the copier market. It is difficult to buy British when considering copiers, and anything that works and which isn't Japanese comes from Germany or the US.

It is well worth having a machine on trial for at least two

months before buying, for many machines simply will not do all that the sales literature claims. This is particularly true of the smaller models with a range of features, like pause, reduction, enlargement, mono component toner, and cold pressure fusing.

"Sending an idea around the world in 40 seconds", is the result of what Canon calls the perfect marriage of telephone and copier. A telephone provides instant verbal communication, the copier, instant copies.

The new Canon FAX provides both, through copy transmission. The original document is placed on the machine, the recipient is then dialled by phone, and in 40 seconds detailed copies of documents or drawings can be sent over ordinary telephone lines anywhere in the world. The FAX 401 indicates the technology trends in facsimile transceivers which are slowly beginning to make an impact in the world of copiers.



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TELEPHONES

Switching away from cord and plug

The private telephone exchanges operating in Britain today present the greatest range of contrasts in the history of the office.

At one extreme are antique manual switchboards at which an operator sits, plugging office workers into contact with the outside world. Cord-and-plug exchanges, little changed from the 1930s, really do survive in a few old buildings. And manual switchboards of a more recent vintage live on in surprising numbers.

The latest digital PABXes (private automatic branch exchanges) represent the other extreme. They switch both voice and data, within the office and to outside telephones and computer terminals, integrating all communications in a single network. It must be remembered that they still belong to the office of the future; there are fewer integrated digital networks in Britain today than cord and plug.

Remember too that a digital PABX, switching voice and data on conventional telephone lines, is not necessarily the most appropriate system for transmitting information within the office. If the volume of data is high, as for example in a highly automated office with an electronic workstation on every desk, a special cable - the local

area network - may be required to cope with internal traffic.

The local area network supported by most equipment suppliers is Ethernet, developed originally by Xerox. However, there are many other types, and Datapoint's Arc network still leads in the number of installations worldwide.

Digital exchanges switch both data and voice as a series of on/off binary digits (the "bits" of computer code) instead of the continuously varying analogue signals by which the telephone system traditionally transmits speech. The prime advantages of a digital network, apart from voice-data integration, are speed of switching and accuracy of transmission.

Obviously you enjoy those benefits to the full only if every element of your network is digital. Speed and quality inevitably suffer if the signals have to be converted from digital to analogue for part of their journey.

There is no difficulty in installing a fully digital network within a single office, but long distance communications with the outside world are a different matter. The conversion of British Telecom's public telephone network from analogue to digital switching is just beginning, with the introduction of the first System X



Dealers using British Telecom's communications terminal combining telex and computer.

exchanges. Despite the immense investment which BT symbol for digital or an abbreviation for exchange), Mercury, its competitor, will also offer companies private lines for digital transmission. So, for the first time, a company can now plan an entirely digital private network

(SLIs from GEC's Reliance Systems) and about 50 smaller exchanges (mainly Monarchs from BT).

Under the tidy and uncompetitive arrangement that existed until the current liberalization of the British telecommunications market, BT enjoyed a monopoly on the supply of small PABXes (serving fewer than 100 extensions) which it bought from a select band of manufacturers (GEC, Plessey, SPC, TMC and a recent recruit, Mitel). On the other hand customers purchased large exchanges directly from a few approved manufacturers (foreign companies were excluded unless they agreed to make the equipment in Britain).

Liberation is beginning to break down the barriers. This year BT loses its sole right to supply small PABXes, though the technical approvals process for new privately supplied equipment is running so far behind schedule that the real benefits of competition may not be felt until next year.

Purchase prices of BT's smallest exchanges start at about £1,000 for the Senator (made by GEC) and Ensign (TMC), which serve as few as four extensions. Maintenance charges will be at least £15 a quarter. At the other extreme, the largest PABXes with thousands of extensions cost several hundred thousand pounds.

After a thorough analysis of the future prospects during liberalization, the office equipment guide *What to Buy for Business* advised companies not to buy PABXes to take them into the 1990s until "true competition" arrives. "Wait a year or two, and you'll have more to choose between, you'll pay less and you'll get more".

Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

ling, and other types of paper handling.

Once mailing operations move to true bulk volumes, such as are found in direct mail, several more high-technology products can be brought into play. The capital investment is likely to be high, but these days direct mail is very big business indeed.

A key element in much of this type of mailing is the laser printer which combines computer technology with lasers and electrography. Instead of using metal type or filmstrips, a laser printer creates characters electronically and holds them in the form of software. The image is created by laser beams using a high-quality dot matrix method, with the characters being formed first on the surface of a photoreceptor drum, and then transferred to a continuous web of paper.

Although laser printing equipment is costly - a system from Sperry, for example, costs about £200,000 for the basic configuration - many bulk mail users find this worth while. There is an extremely wide range of fonts and other images available, and varying information can be introduced during printing runs. It is not necessary to have special stationery or pre-printed forms.

An example of laser printing in practice is the Post Office's Royal Mail Electronic Post, which combines laser techniques with computer transmission and hand delivery. This allows text and addresses to be sent electronically over long distances, and then printed and delivered locally.

More amenable to modern handling methods are semi-standard documents like invoices and statements, which can be generated at high speed by computer. They demand equally high-speed mailing techniques if there is not to be a bottleneck.

Finally, there is bulk mailing of sales literature and other promotional material; where the scale of operations means that a whole array of technology can be brought into play: laser printing, automatic folding and insertion, and automatic sorting among them.

For years, many companies have been easing the log-jam in the mailroom by franking everyday post, rather than sticking on stamps. Pitney Bowes, a leading company in mail processing, estimates that the UK market for meter franking is worth about £20m, with 135,000 users.

Electronics is now being applied to this aspect of mail processing in a big way. Pitney Bowes has introduced a postage meter which can be hooked up to other pieces of equipment, such as scales and accounting

Even so, there are develop-



Handling the mail with the Pitney Bowes telephone computer system.

systems. By linking a parcel scale to the meter, for example, the weight is automatically converted into the cost, and a correctly printed postage label is produced.

The chore of taking the postage meter to the nearest Post Office when the credit level expires, is also on the way out. Pitney Bowes has introduced a system called RMRS (Remote Meter Resetting System), which allows postage re-crediting to be carried out by phoning a computer from the office or mailroom. This takes only 90 seconds, compared with an average of 40 minutes for the return trip to the Post Office.

Centralization of computer printing and mailing operations can result in some impressive savings. One company which took this course estimates that it reduces its 1982 postage bill by about £20,000. Another user, this time a local water authority, has invested £100,000 in systems of this type, but it expects the cost to be recouped within two years.

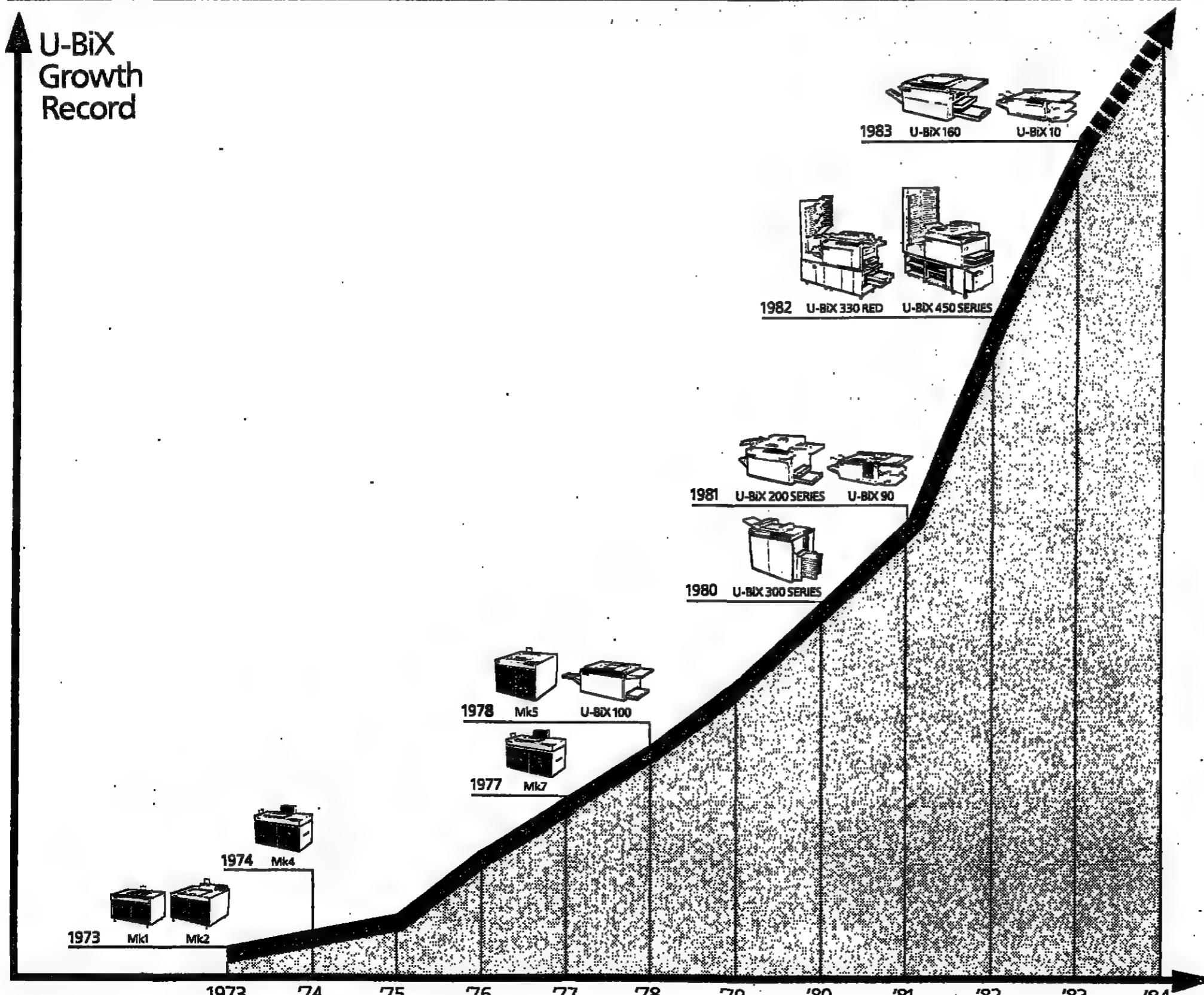
One example of the advantages which modern equipment can provide is the sorting of outgoing mail by post-code. As the Post Office offers discounts of up to 30 per cent on the postage for mail sorted in this way, there are immediate hard cash benefits.

Some off these systems are only applicable to large organizations with substantial volumes of mail, but other equipment has been designed for the smaller user. A recently introduced machine is small enough to stand on a table-top, and will automatically insert invoices, statements, and direct-mail literature into envelopes.

Equipment is also on the market which can take care of folding, envelope sealing, label-

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RW

EQUIPMENT LEASING



Pam Ayscough: 'once you have leased it you're stuck with it'

The year 1982 saw a ten year record for the equipment leasing industry. According to the latest available annual report of the Equipment Leasing Association (ELA) computer and office equipment leasing continued buoyant and, at £447m, showed an increase of 26 per cent over the previous year.

When Sir Geoffrey Howe addressed the association last year, he emphasized that the growth of leasing has kept investment in the economy at a higher level than would otherwise be the case. In the UK more than 11 per cent of all new capital investment is financed by way of leasing, and despite the problems of recession and unemployment, the UK accounts for a third of the total European leasing market.

The association admits that leasing offers an attractive alternative source of funding for companies, and there has been an increasing trend towards larger and longer transactions in 1982. 50 per cent by value of all leases were for terms exceeding five years.

Many groups, including some of the largest blue-chip companies which had previously used leasing mainly for smaller items of plant and equipment, turned in 1982 to leasing as a source of finance for much larger items. Had leasing facilities not been available, it is unlikely, says the association, that "that investment by industry during the recession would have taken place on such a scale".

Though leasing is not new – its origins can be traced back to the middle of the nineteenth century mainly in the coal and rail industries – it was not until 1980 that the importance of financial leasing as an alternative to hire purchase and loan facilities was acknowledged. Sir Geoffrey Howe, in his 1980 budget speech, said that leasing

Making sure about the small print

finance "has become an important – in many cases essential – source of finance for investment in manufacturing industry".

In equipment leasing, as practised by members of the ELA, the actual supplier of the equipment is entirely independent of the lessor and the equipment is chosen by the user who then negotiates a lease. Leasing companies are not the equipment vendors or manufacturers, but rather financial institutions who are in business to lease items of capital equipment, which their customers wish to use.

Leasing agreements can be very complicated documents and often many lessees sign them without fully realising the commitments and compromises. One reason is the eagerness of the lessor to acquire the equipment, usually at a time when there is a lack of ready cash available.

Although some lessees have said that leasing does away with concerns over obsolescence as the lease agreement can provide for a replacement machine as soon as technology develops, a cursory sample taken last week revealed that many had leasing agreements which prohibited cancellation in favour of replacement or upgrading of models.

Pam Ayscough, who runs PA Secretarial Services, highlights

some of the problems she has encountered with leasing, saying "once you have leased it, you're stuck with it." She has been left with a word processor which did not come up to standards of expectation or performance. She complains that the leasing charge does not always cover all the extras necessary – paper, feeders, acoustic hood, software, memory capacity, maintenance, insurance, printwheels, diskettes, ribbons, training manuals and so on. On signing a leasing agreement, one should ensure that the cost includes training, for if one has to pay extra to be sent on a training course, this adds further expense, which "can paralyse the cash flow".

Mrs Ayscough encounters the same problems when leasing photocopiers, and insists that seldom does the leasing charge include the charge per copy... "This can be substantial if dealing in large quantities even though it may sound small when the manufacturer is talking of the charge for just one copy. In the excitement and eagerness to exchange contracts and get the equipment, one forgets all the extra costs such as collating accessories, supply paper and after sales service."

She, like other members in the survey, felt that rental or outright purchase were preferable so long as these options did

not put a strain on the company's borrowing power or cash flow.

The rule of thumb appears to be to ensure that leasing agreements contain as much of these add-on costs as possible, particularly maintenance and insurance charges. The higher the cost of the equipment being sought, the more likely leasing offers attractions over outright purchase, with the former not involving considerable capital outlay. But some individuals in the survey felt the advantages of leasing "did not come free". The lessor always owned the machine, and therefore it can never be shown as one of the lessee's assets, and usually "the lessee is not allowed to sell the equipment". The fact that the costs of leasing agreements are not normally shown on the balance sheet, and that they are "disguised debts" does offer the possibility, and danger, that they will become forgotten liabilities.

A careless company could find injudicious leasing agreements contributing to over-commitment. Once a lease is taken on, the company is committed regardless of its fortunes. Lessees may be the ideal way for a company to use the most effective technology, but they require a continuing awareness and the same self-control as a personal credit card.

Many companies regard a lease as a continuous drain on resources, but the ELA would see them as self-financing, because the resultant increased efficiency generates income to meet the charges and costs.

Initially thought, it may be more prudent, to rent the equipment on trial, and only commit the company when confident of its competence and cost.

Lynda King Taylor

SATELLITES

Getting messages from above

The network of satellites over the equator launched for the International Satellite Organization (Intelsat) has been described as a communications girdle round the Earth. Those spacecraft have made McLuhan's concept of the "global village" a reality by bringing disasters like earthquakes and famine; the politics of Eastern Europe and Central America, and international sporting and entertainment events into the living room.

Directed broadcasting satellites (DBS) will soon bounce signals direct to the viewers' television set. But this revolution brought by satellite technology is not confined to the domestic services for tele-

vision and telephone subscribers. Business and industry are reaping benefits that will become increasingly noticeable.

Telecommunications links have provided the channel for rapid exchanges of digital data between highspeed computers, often in different countries. The route over which computer data or a telephone call is carried between, say, Birmingham, England, and Birmingham, Alabama, could be a mixture of terrestrial cable, transatlantic satellite and radio link.

Until recently those details

were of little significance to the subscriber. Now there is a surge of interest by large commercial and industrial firms in the prospects of bypassing the

telephone network and transmitting voice and data over special satellite networks.

The stimulus for space communications applied to industry and commerce began in the United States with the formation of Satellite Business Systems (SBS), a jointly owned company of IBM, AT&T, and Comsat.

In the past most satellite systems operated at a frequency designed to allow the space link to be tied-in without difficulty to the terrestrial connection which distributed signals from ground stations to the subscribers.

Many of the current designs of satellites use a new technology and higher frequencies

of operation that allow signals virtually to pepper the terrain beneath without interference.

Small antennae are placed on customers' premises, and as far as the subscriber is concerned as the signals arriving at that address make it look as if the satellite conveying them is indicated solely to that purpose.

In fact, it merely means the receiver is filtering out only those messages with the right address code.

High-speed computer-to-computer data transmissions via this type of satellite are rare.

Nevertheless, in the United States newspapers like the *Wall Street Journal* would be almost impossible to deliver without satellites to transmit copy for remote printing.

International news magazines like *Time* are in the same position, and *The Economist* uses the technology to supply copy from the UK for its important North American circulation.

Direct receiving antennae are

therefore sprouting on the roofs

of office blocks and on the edge

of industrial estates for collect

ive use across the US. The

services in use cover television

conferencing and the electronic

distribution of mail, in addition

to telephone and computer

traffic.

Innovation moves more

rapidly in the US because of an

"open skies" policy which

allows a large number of

competing satellite services.

There are eight American

vendors with satellites in orbit,

and three of them specialize in

business services. Furthermore,

a subscriber can buy satellite

services in bulk and resell the

unused capacity.

An agreement between SBS

and British Telecom can open

some of these advantages to the

multinational firms. Although

business exploitation in Europe

is at an embryo stage, the

potential savings are there.

Large manufacturers or banking

and insurance companies in

Britain have terrestrial com

munications networks consist

ing of thousands of circuits, and

those links are paid for accord

ing to distance. Earth stations

must become an increasingly

attractive substitute on price

and reliability grounds.

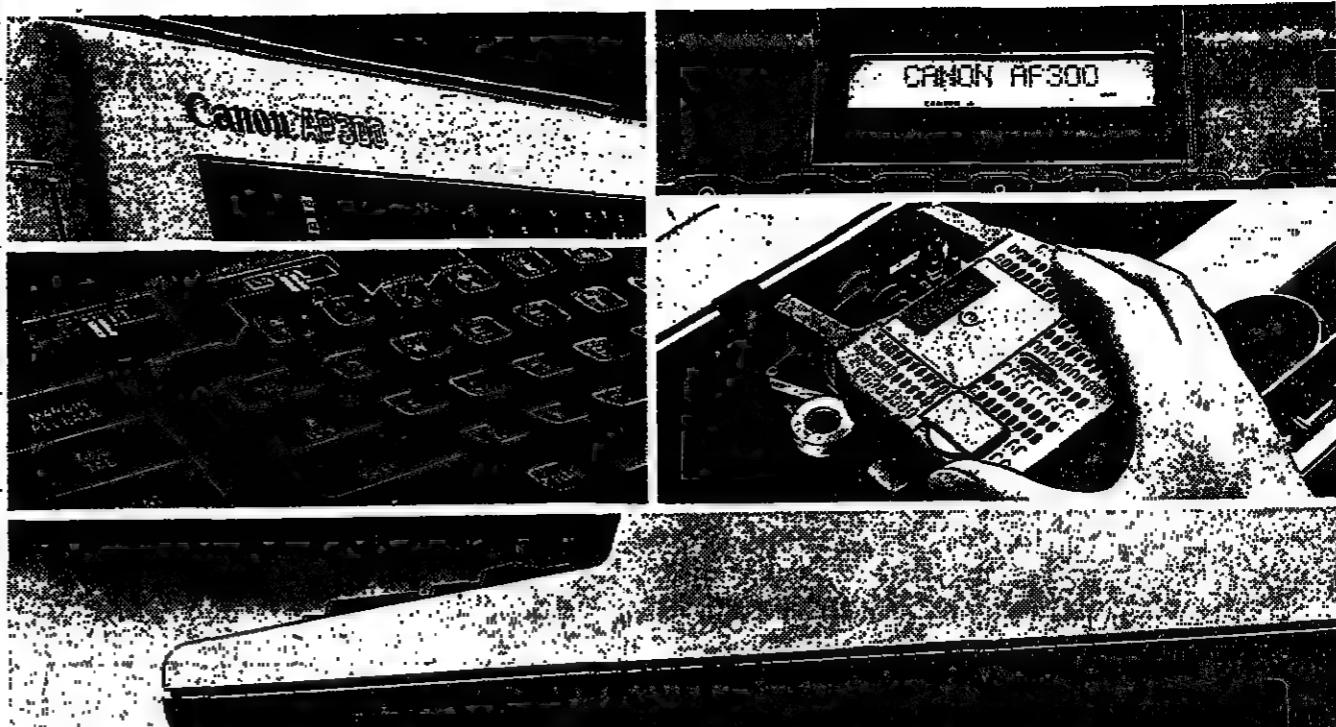
Pearce Wright
Science Editor



A small dish aerial on the roof of British Telecom's research centre at Martlesham

21
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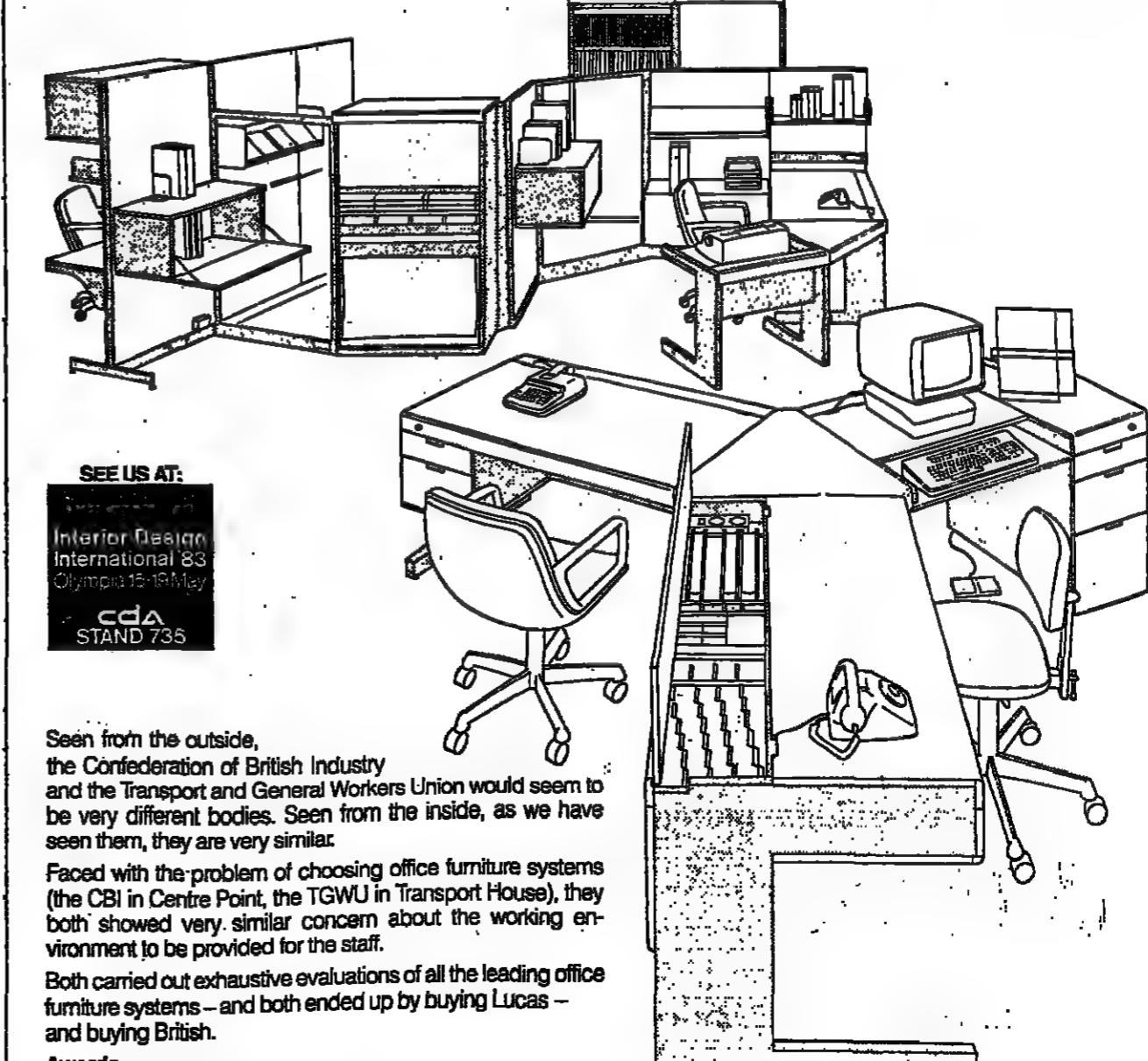
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Canon
The next step forward

How the CBI and TGWU came to agree on working conditions



Seen from the outside, the Confederation of British Industry and the Transport and General Workers Union would seem to be very different bodies. Seen from the inside, as we have seen them, they are very similar.

Faced with the problem of choosing office furniture systems (the CBI in Centra Point, the TGWU in Transport House), they both showed very similar concern about the working environment to be provided for the staff.

Both carried out exhaustive evaluations of all the leading office furniture systems – and both ended up by buying Lucas – and buying British.

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Name _____

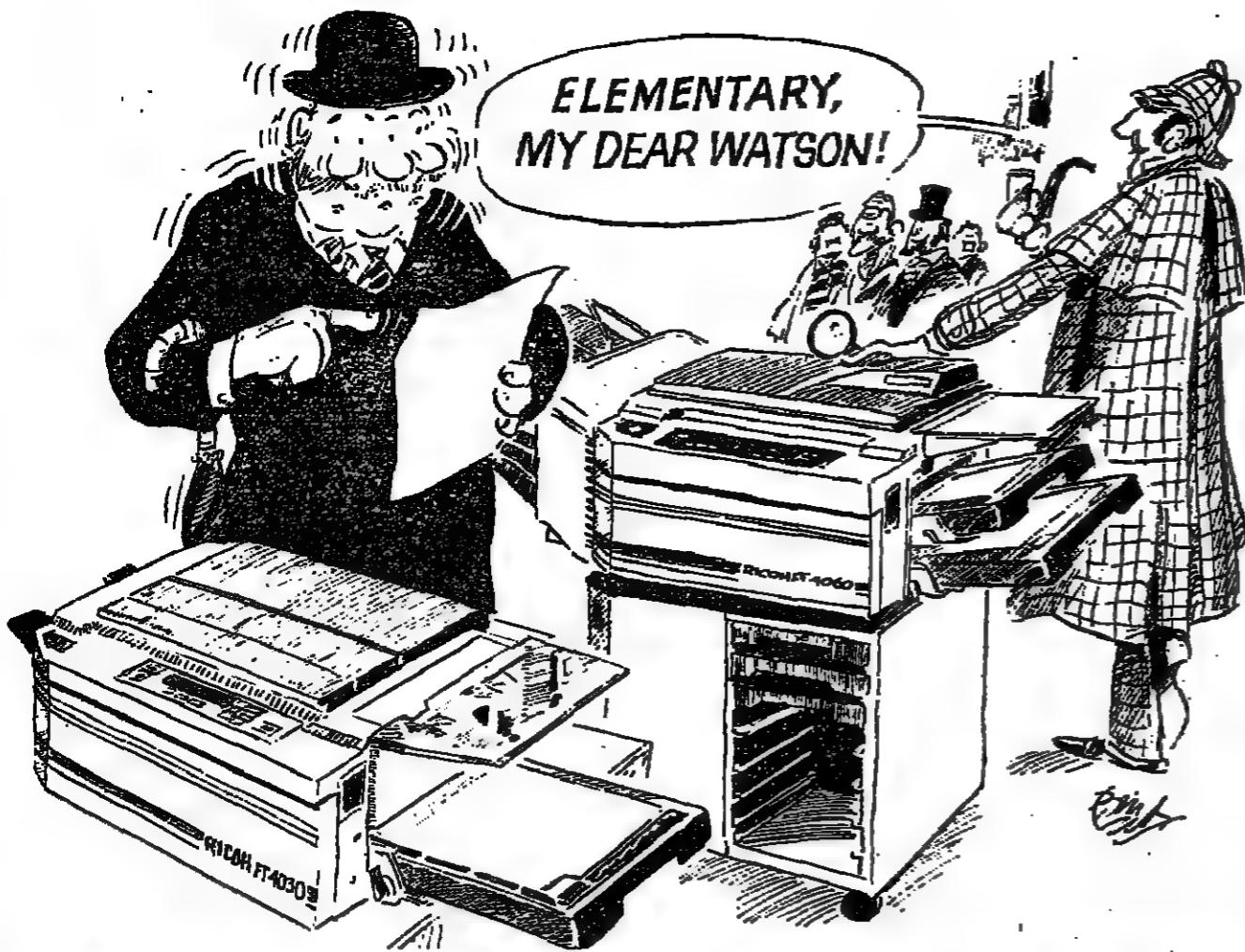
Position _____

Company _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

**Lucas
Furniture
Systems**



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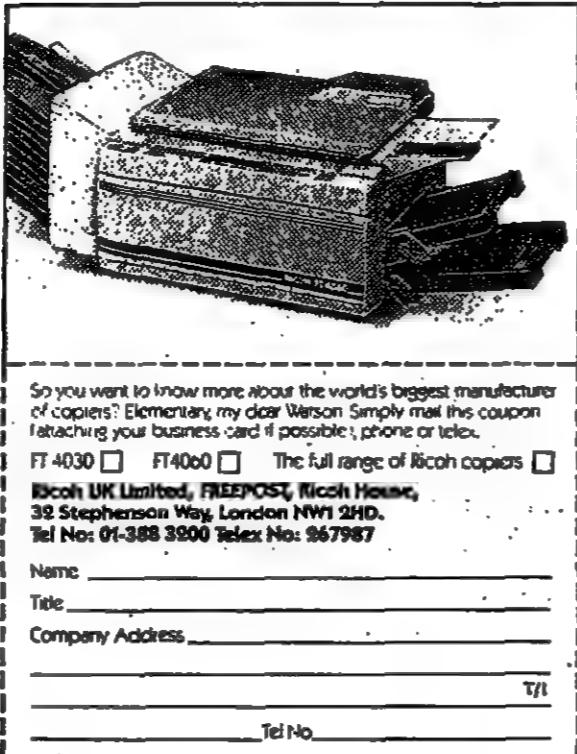
My dear Watson, a moment's reflection will tell you which machine to choose. Imagine yourself in trade - forgive me - a business with a requirement for a good copier. You choose the FT 4030 and have perfection at no great outlay. But if more facilities are the order of the day, more versatility, then you plump for the FT 4060. We have here a pinnacle of achievement from Ricoh, and that, my dear chap, is praise indeed.

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Copy speed	FT 4030 18 copies/min	FT 4060 20 copies/min
Reproduction ratio	1:1 exactly	1:1, 1:0.93, 1:0.81, 1:0.70, 1:1.15; enlargement
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Lighting engineers have developed a variety of alternatives to traditional office lighting which, they claim, can cut running costs by up to half. Since lighting can account for as much as 30 per cent of the total energy consumed by an office building, the potential savings can be substantial. In addition the new lighting systems offer economies in maintenance and replacement costs. The problem which office managers face is in selecting which of the rival systems best fits the work methods and style of particular premises and in balancing capital outlay against operating savings.

Earlier works' managers did not face the same dilemma. The banks of glaring fluorescent tubes which were a universal feature of offices built in the 1950s and 1960s were available initially only under post-war quotas from the United States. Translated from designs used for factory work their main advantage was that they were considerably brighter than the 60 watt bulbs which, in many instances, they replaced. They were also extremely durable. Many of the fittings installed more than 30 years ago are still in operation.

The sudden focus on energy costs in the mid 1970s unlocked innovation from a variety of areas - in lamp technology, design of fittings and, thanks to the microprocessor, increasingly in switches and control mechanisms. In designing the new office systems, the lighting engineers, who maintain that their profession is as much an art as science, drew on experiences from the theatre and shop window displays as well as industry. A bewildering variety of new techniques each fervently backed by rival experts has resulted.

Arousing most controversy currently is "uplighting", a method which, as its name suggests, directs light up rather than down from the ceiling - rather like medieval torches. High intensity lamps of the new high pressure sodium, discharge or metal-halide type are mounted on walls or inserted in the top of freestanding units which can also be used as furniture. It results in a soft umbrella of light bounced back from the ceiling which most people find aesthetically pleasant.

The uplighting technique which is a very old one has come into vogue for advanced modern offices mainly because of its advantage in eliminating

VISION

Shedding a bit of light on the subject



Douglas Mutch: reflections on the screen spoil the job.

reflections from computer screens. Since the light source is concealed there is no glare.

The main controversy centres on efficiency in energy use. Uplighting systems have not been in general operation for long enough to prove that indirect light alone is sufficient for the majority of office workers - particularly those aged 45 and upwards who generally require higher light intensities than their younger colleagues.

Philips, the world's largest lamp maker, says it "does not approve of uplighting when it is presented as having energy-saving potential; that the high-intensity light sources used are at best only slightly more efficient than the new fluores-

cent lamps and as much as 60 per cent of their output can be lost in reflection from even a good ceiling". Although it adds that "Of course uplighters have a role in decorative lighting". Nevertheless uplighting is being used for a variety of office work - in new developments. These include the new Trustee Savings Bank headquarters at Andover, which has installed Thorn EMI Lighting uplights and Barclays Bank at Hemel Hempstead, which has Courtenay-Pope Lighting Torchier uplights. At Barclays individual desk lamps were also installed, but according to Mr Douglas Mutch, a director of Courtney-Pope the ambient light appears to have been sufficient. Com-

menting about the difficulties in

removing heat generated by this type of system Mr Mutch says: "You are probably prepared to pay the penalty in air conditioning if you operate with VDU's because no matter how cool and comfortable the room is, if you've got reflections on that screen you can't do your job".

Another, less controversial solution which is being offered to the problem of reflections off VDU's and microfiche and other vertical screens is a new type of integral ceiling fitting. Bare fluorescent lamps are mounted in a trough in the ceiling. Louvres of slats of polished material bounce light sideways off the trough sides before releasing it downwards into the office. The system is remarkably efficient since most of the light generated eventually reaches the working surface from the bare tube. In traditional light fittings opal diffusers and even the newer prismatic reflectors can cut out a quarter or more of the total light output emitted from the lamp.

If combined with recent developments in lamp technology the cost savings from the new types of fitting can be dramatic. Philips reckons that its new Triphosphor TLD lamps can cut lighting costs by about 50 per cent. The TLD lamp is only 1 inch in diameter compared with about 1½ inches for a conventional lamp and uses krypton instead of argon as a gas filling. Another new development manufactured by both Thorn and Philips are the compact fluorescents which can be plugged into most filament lighting points, last five times longer than a conventional bulb, and use a fraction of the electricity to provide the same amount of light.

A wide variety of microprocessor-inspired new developments have taken place in remote controls, automatic time switches and dimmers. Some of these can be used automatically to turn unwanted office lights off near sunny windows, portable infra-red control boxes similar to those used for television sets could turn office lights on or off up or down. Lights can be dialled up or down via the office telephone.

However, before getting too carried away by new technology it might pay the energy conscious works manager to look at the mundane matter of cleaning existing light fittings. Experts claim that dirt can cut light by more than 20 per cent.

Patricia Tisdall

STORAGE

Filing away

35 per cent each year up to 1987, to reach \$356.2m.

Kodak is considered to have the largest share of the CAR market, and its Oracle microfilm equipment is an example of what the technology can offer. Documents are filmed as they arrive in random order, after only a single rough-sort. Each one is allocated an eight-digit code, which appears under the page. To retrieve information, the microfilm is loaded into a reader, the appropriate code number is entered on a keyboard, and the document is located automatically in only a few seconds. If a copy is required, the machine can handle that too.

A British company, Allen Microfilm products (AMP), has developed a random retrieval reader with the help of the Department of Industry. The motorized reader is linked to a microprocessor-based keypad, known as the Blip Chip. By entering the required frame number, a single image of our 2,400 can be retrieved in a time between one and 40 seconds. This equipment will later be linked to a reader-printer, and finally to a computer, to make a complete CAR system.

As an increasing quantity of office information is created electronically, files can be stored and retrieved without any intermediate use of paper records. The OFIS file system of

Burroughs, which is undergoing trials with the Central Electricity Generating Board as part of the Department of Industry's automated office project, includes the creation of documents electronically by word processor, and storage in the OFIS file system.

This approach to electronic filing and retrieval can also accept output from ordinary typewriters, which is first passed through an optical character recognition reader. To locate a document, OFIS file needs only an instruction phrased in plain language, containing a name, date, of other words in the text being sought. The equipment is about the size of a small office filing cabinet, but can store the equivalent of 80,000 A4 pages of text - 160 million characters.

Rather more modest in its capacity, but useful at locations such as telephone switchboards, is an information storage and retrieval system offered by Interscan Communication Systems. This is essentially an electronic directory, which can be accessed several ways. It can store more than 5,000 entries, and will display the required information in less than two seconds, even if interrogated with data which is incomplete.

For mass storage of information, there are great hopes of

optical systems. Technically, there are various approaches to optical storage, though most companies use laser beams to read data which has been encoded digitally on a disk about the size of a long-play record.

The thing that gives optical storage its edge over other techniques is sheer capacity. With Philips' Megadisc optical recorder, a single disk can store 2500 A4 pages of a document scanned in the normal way. But if the information is compressed by removing all the white space, storage can be increased to 50,000 pages.

The optical disk has been seen as a mass storage medium, which could be used for archives which users wish to consult, but not change. But this limited concept was turned on its head by the announcement last April from Matsushita of Japan that it has developed an optical disk on which data can be erased and re-recorded millions of times.

It has a maximum capacity of 1,000 million characters, and the longest time required to access any part of the stored data is less than half-a-second.

It is a long way from the grubby green filing cabinet groaning with out-of-date papers to the sleek laser disks encoded with megabytes of information, and although it may be time to pension off the cabinet, no one suggests that the highest of high-tech will take over completely.

RW

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MODELS*	0609.0709.0809.	0711.0713.0811.	0813.	0911-1613.	1615.	1617.	2517.2817.	2817.	1520.1620.2420.	2820.3220.
8-SPEED GEARBOX AND APPROPRIATE AXLE	-	-	O	S	S	S	O	O	-	
POWER ASSISTED CLUTCH	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	S	
POWER ASSISTED STEERING	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
LAMINATED WINDSHIELD	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
STEERING COLUMN LOCK	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
THERMOVISCOS FAN	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
REVERSING LAMP	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
MULTIPURPOSE SOCKET/CIGAR LIGHTER	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	

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truck dealer about the loan
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is going for Cargo. He'll tell
you about the great deals
he can offer.

Parking car is no reason for not banning driver

Haim v Walklett
Before Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Glidewell
[Judgment delivered May 11]

The facts that a driver had merely reversed across a street, and intended to reverse his car across a street. The car's engine stalled twice, and twice mounted the pavement to come to rest where the police officer stood. The vehicle was not displaying lights.

The officer administered a breath test which proved positive, and a subsequent blood test at the police station indicated an excess concentration of alcohol in the defendant's blood, in the ratio of 204mg per 100ml of blood.

He was convicted before the justices under section 6 of the 1972 Act. The defendant stated that he knew he was drunk, but that his intention was to drive the car two hundred yards to a car park, leave the vehicle there and walk home.

The justices accepted that the shortness of the distance actually driven, coupled with the defendant's intention, were special reasons for not disqualifying the defendant under section 93(1) of the 1972 Act.

The court had been referred to the case of *Coombs v Akeoe* ([1972] 1 WLR 797), which had decided that

the defendant was seen by a police officer on July 1, 1981 to attempt to reverse his car across a street. The car's engine stalled twice, and twice mounted the pavement to come to rest where the police officer stood. The vehicle was not displaying lights.

The officer administered a breath test which proved positive, and a subsequent blood test at the police station indicated an excess concentration of alcohol in the defendant's blood, in the ratio of 204mg per 100ml of blood.

It was difficult to distinguish this case from *Coombs v Akeoe*, save in so far as here there was no finding that the defendant was driving a bus one. However, if it was sufficiently busy there, it could not be said that the defendant's driving across the road would not constitute a danger.

The justices had therefore erred in law in holding that there were special reasons for not disqualifying the defendant. The appeal would be allowed.

Mr Justice Glidewell agreed.

Solicitors: Beswick & Co, Stock-in-Treat, Walters & Welch, Stafford.

Same justices should rectify mistakes

Morris v Grant
Before Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Glidewell
[Judgment delivered May 11]

Where justices exercised their power under section 142 of the Magistrates' Court Act 1980 to reopen proceedings to rectify a mistake made in passing sentence, the rehearing should be before the same bench of justices, and where three or more justices had sat, a majority should sit at the rehearing.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by Peter Charles George Morris by way of case stated by the Walton-on-Thames Justices on the question whether they were entitled to exercise their power under section 142 of the 1980 Act so as to vary a sentence passed by a differently constituted bench of justices.

Mr Allen Dyer for the defendant; Mr J. Mervyn Roberts for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER said that the defendant was convicted before the justices of an offence of driving while under the influence of drink or drugs contrary to section 5(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972.

He was fined £100, and his driving licence was endorsed with 10 penalty points, in purported pursuance of section 19 and Schedule 7 of the Transport Act 1981.

The justices later realized that they should have disqualified the defendant from driving for a minimum of 12 months under section 93(1) of the 1972 Act.

They served a notice upon him that the case would be reopened. At the rehearing the bench consisted of

three justices, only one of whom had sat at the original hearing.

The first time the defendant was disqualified from driving for 12 months with no reference to penalty points.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that the applicant had been in considerable financial difficulties. The relevant authority had sought a period of commitment in December 1981 and the justices had, at that time, conducted an inquiry in accordance with section 103(1)(a) of the 1967 Act and had postponed the issue of a warrant on the condition that the applicant paid £50 per week to the rating authority.

They had, however, fixed the term of imprisonment which he would be required to serve if a warrant were ever issued.

Having paid £50 for several weeks, the applicant had found himself in further financial difficulties.

Accordingly, certiorari would issue to quash the justices' decision and mandamus would go to direct the justices, if the rating authority issued a warrant, to conduct an inquiry as required by section 103(1)(a) of the 1967 Act.

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**Investment
and
Finance**
**City Editor
Anthony Hilton**

THE TIMES

 City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-537 1224
STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 672.8 down 4.1
 FT Gilts: 81.15 up 0.17
 FT All Shares: 419.34 down 1.66
 Bargains: 20.768
 Tring Hall USM Index: 157.8 up 23.59
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones, 8691.58 up 23.59
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index, 843.02 down 2.30
 New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average latest: 1220.30 down 9.38

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5685 up 35pts
 Index 83.9 down 0.1
 DM 3.6275 unchanged
 Frf 11.51 down 0.150
 Yen 363 down 1.25
 Dollar
 Index 121.4 down 0.5
 DM 2.4385 down 68pts
 Gold \$443.75 up \$0.25
 NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$443.00
 Sterling \$1.5885

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
 Base rates 10
 3 month interbank 10½-10¾
 Euro-currency rates
 3 month dollar 3½-3½
 3 month DM 5½-4½
 3 month 13½-13½
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for interest period April 6 to May 3, 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Comb Tech 43½ up 7½
 Butt Harvey 190 up 1½
 Int Thomson 590 up 37p
 Northgate Ex 445 up 25p
 Rustenberg 590 up 41p
 Massey Ferguson 415 up 30p
 Britoil 1780 down 8p
 Exco Int 573 down 20p
 Gen Accident 423 down 8p
 Hawker Siddeley 363p down 8p
 Royal Ins 518p down 17p
 Yarrow & Gte 263p down 10p

TODAY

Interim BOC Grp, Cambrian & General, Lloyds & Scottish, Warner Estates Hldgs.
 Finalist Bank of Ireland, Hawkin, Holt Lloyd, Kusal Selangor Rubber, Seacombe Marshall & Campion.
 Economic statistics: Provisional figures of vehicle production (April).

Record day for LIFFE

A record total of 7,672 contracts was traded on the London International Financial Futures Exchange yesterday. Dealers said that sterling was very active, recording 2,401 contracts, as holders of the currency grew nervous about the election.

Mr John Barishoff, chairman of LIFFE, said that the volume of business showed that the exchange was being used for its proper purpose of a hedge in times of uncertainty. He expected some of the extra business to be permanent.

BID EXTENSION: Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries is extending its £26m takeover for Devonport Brewery (Holdings) for a further week. The Wolverhampton board took the decision after winning an encouraging 20 per cent level of acceptances from Devonport shareholders at the first closing date for its increased offer terms. This gives Wolverhampton effective control of 33 per cent of Devonport shares when the acceptances are added to shares previously purchased in the stockmarket.

PROFITS RISE: Matthew Hall, the plant and oil rig engineering group, managed to increase its profits last year despite the recession which has affected companies in the same sector so severely. On sales up from £329.25m to £413.15m, pretax profits rose 12.5 per cent to £11.64m.

EXPANSION: Bunzl is paying £9.6m to buy seven separate US companies to expand its distribution division. The seven operate as a group and total profits last year were £3.8m on turnover of £50m. Further payments of up to £12.8m will be made by Bunzl over the next three years provided profits of at least £3.8m per year are achieved. Total net worth is £7.7m.

EARNINGS DOUBLE: Kwik-Fit, the tyre and exhaust fitting company, more than doubled its profits from £1.3m to £2.9m last year and expects more improvement this year. It intends to open a further 11 "Stop 'n' Steer" maintenance depots and another two transmission repair shops.

WALL STREET**Stocks slip lower**

New York (AP-Dow Jones) Stocks were slipping back yesterday after a short-lived rally.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was down more than three points. It had pulled ahead to a gain of about 1% during the morning.

Trading was active. Oil stocks were strong, based on expectation of improved profitability.

Blue chip and glamour stocks led the market's rally over the last few weeks but analysts said individual investors were stepping up their participation in the market and focusing on some of the issues that have remained in the background.

Mr Ralph Block, vice-president for Investment Strategy at Moseley Hall-Gartigan Estabrook & Weeden, said that except for the oils the market would be broadly lower.

American Telephone & Telegraph was 68½, off 1½. International Machines 116, ½ (unchanged). General Motors 68½, off 1½. Honeywell 121, ½ off 1. Texaco 36½, up 1½. Monsanto 87½, up 1½. Disney 75, off 2½. Lockheed 116½, off 1½, and Dow Chemical 33, up 1½. Ashland Oil was up 1½, at 35½. Exxon up 1½, at 35½. K-Mart off 1½, to 32½. CSK up ½ to 66½. Hewlett Packard, unchanged at 82. Homestake up 1½, at 33½. Raytheon up 1½, at 51½. Telenet off 1½, at 144½. Data General down 1½, at 61½.

MacGregor backs EEC protection

By Patricia Clough

Mr MacGregor, the chairman of the British Steel Corporation, said yesterday that the best chance for British Steel lay in continued membership of the European Community.

There were no longer any opportunities for Britain to compete in the other main markets — North America, Japan and the Third World. "These markets no longer exist," he said.

Withdrawal from the Community would mean measures to protect British Steel from European competition and corresponding measures against Britain by remaining members. This would create a "knock-on effect" which would damage the manufacturing industries and exports.

Mr MacGregor's remarks, made to the House of Lords select committee examining the impact of Community membership on British trade, came at the start of an election campaign in which the Labour Party will be urging withdrawal from the Community.

On balance, he said, membership of the Community has benefited British Steel. The Community had protected it from the worst of the growing competition by Third World countries who sell steel below cost to earn foreign currency.

The EEC steel regime's industrial intervention and support for its own industries has checked further deterioration in the hard hit British Steel industry. However, the stock market was still disappointed and the shares fell 1½ to 518p.

Compared with a loss of £3.5m in the first quarter of 1982, Royal reported a £9.2m pretax profit. Weather claims, largely in the United Kingdom, were well down from the exceptional £28m cost in the comparable period, but at £15.5m were still higher than normal.

However, allowing for this and for a £7.9m boost to the underwriting loss from currency changes, the underlying picture on the underwriting side remains gloomy.

The first quarter underwriting loss was virtually unchanged at £64.2m. In the United States, the underwriting loss, boosted by sterling's drop, rose from

McMahon speech may be reversal of policy**Bank of England chief defends big dividend rises paid by clearers**

By Graham Sealant

Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, has sprung to the defence of the big dividend increases announced by London clearing banks.

In an apparent reversal of Bank thinking, Mr McMahon told representatives of foreign banks in the City yesterday that the prime concern of any bank or supervisor was "that the total resources available to it should be maintained at a level which preserves its reputation for prudent management. How a bank elects to meet this objective is a less important question."

The erosion of capital relative to the scale and quality of

loans had been eroded in many countries and "this trend cannot be allowed to continue".

He said: But it was up to each bank to balance the need to build up resources from profits and to pay dividends to make it easier to raise new capital by rights issues.

Several banks, particularly Barclays, have stressed that they must make their own decisions after a speech by Mr Peter Cooke, head of supervision at the Bank of England. He had suggested that they should maximize retained profits rather than pay out big dividends.

The House of Commons Treasury committee had quoted Mr Cooke's speech with approval. But Mr McMahon said

account of these broader considerations."

Mr McMahon said that, despite the progress made in rescheduling foreign debts, it would be too much to claim that confidence has been restored.

He urged banks not to be too cautious by trying to switch their loans away from doubtful areas of the world. In particular, they should continue to put funds into the interbank market even though the banks borrowing those funds might have doubtful debts on their books.

In the longer term, banks should become less dependent on short-term money from the wholesale markets. But, at the moment, maintenance of interbank lines "is a crucial part of the burden-sharing".

City Comment**ITT's \$1m circus by satellite**

ITT claims that yesterday's annual meeting in London was the first time a major American company has assembled its shareholders outside the United States. It must be true. If all American company meetings were like this they could hardly have passed unnoticed.

It was the full circus of American corporate democracy. A film extolling the virtues of ITT European subsidiaries and products, lines of board members filing on to the stage to the accompaniment of soft music, ladies sporting diamonds as big as the Ritz (they stay in Sheratons, however), gentlemen in sports jackets bright enough to stop the traffic — and a corps of professional activists.

The latter are, presumably, invited to enliven the otherwise soporific proceedings. One such, a Miss Evelyn Davis, who modestly introduced herself to a long-suffering audience as America's best known minority rights activist, was a number of factors which appear to have pushed up the April total. Borrowing from the National Loans Fund by local authorities was well up on the same month a year ago at £400m and it was stressed by officials that this would not necessarily feed through into the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

Departmental balances also

rose sharply by £568m and it was suggested that departments were drawing money from the Consolidated Fund before they needed to spend it and this could have contributed to the increase in spending.

Consolidated Fund expenditure in April was £7.58bn

compared with £6.95bn in April 1982 and supply issues within this rose by 9 per cent to £7.26bn — more than the Budget forecast of 5 per cent.

Hanson Trust, which now controls 79 per cent of the shares in UDS, said yesterday that it intends to vote against the long-standing proposal to sell off the troubled retailers Richard Shops and John Colliers to the Burton Group.

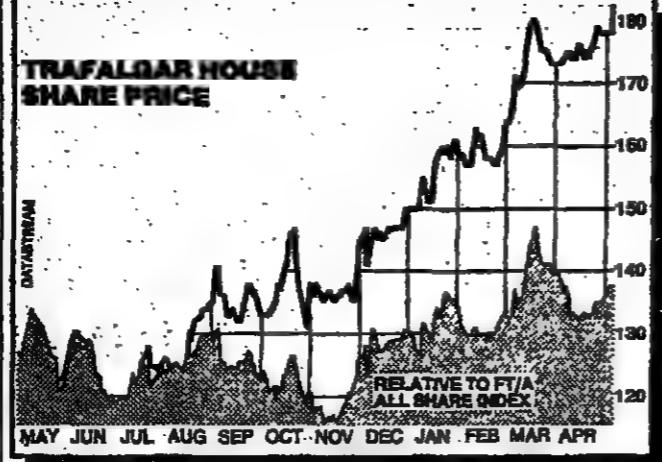
Last night, Mr Michael Wood,

Burton's finance director, said Hanson's statement was "a mere formality" and that his company was still negotiating to buy the two chains. The plan to sell them to Burton was first drawn up against the original

with either company.

Multinational corporations have international shareholders as well as international profits. Some 40 per cent of ITT's sales and 30 per cent of its shareholders are in Europe.

It is therefore logical and fair that meetings should be held outside the United States. The extra \$1m cost, about half of which was for a live satellite link to Chicago, is insignificant. The pity is that shareholders did not make better use of their money to ask constructive questions.

**Trafalgar buys two liners for £46m**

By Jeremy Warner

Trafalgar House, the property construction and Cunard shipping group, is to buy two luxury cruise liners from a Norwegian group for £73m (£46.5m).

The purchase is in line with the group's declared policy of reducing its dependence on property and concentrating on shipping and construction.

Trafalgar House, which yesterday announced an increase in the contribution from the shipping, aviation and hotel interests to £5.4m.

The housing side of the business is doing exceptionally well with the number of sales expected to rise by a third, for the year ending in September, to 2,000, boosting the housing content of construction profits to around 20 per cent.

The order book on the construction side as a whole has risen from £200m at the end of last year to over £410m now.

● Ellerman Lines, the large privately owned shipping and brewing group which is now up for sale, yesterday announced a pre-tax loss for 1982 of £9.3m. But it expects to make an profit this year.

Trafalgar's half-year profits

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Lee Cooper
Year to 31.12.92
 Pretax profit £10m (£1.1m)
 Stated earnings 25.68p (27.73p)
 Turnover £58.5m (£77m)
 Net final dividend 2.10p, mkg 3.32p
 (3.01p) Dividend payable July 4

G R Holdings	Argus Press Holdings
Half-year to 31.2.82.	Year 1982.
Pretax profit £853,030 (£1.1m)	Pretax profit, £3.3m (£2.3m).
Stated earnings 10.8p (14.8p restated)	Stated earnings, 22.74p (28.93p).
Turnover £10.5m (£11.2)	Turnover, £65m (£52.5m).
Net Interim dividend 1.6p (1.6p)	Net dividend final, 2.65p mkg 4.9p (9.3p).

The logo for Sears Holdings consists of a black and white graphic. On the left is a stylized chess knight piece, oriented vertically. To its right, the word "Sears" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and below it, the word "Holdings" is written in a slightly smaller, bold, sans-serif font.

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 1983

	1982/83 £m	1981/82 £m
Turnover	1,597	1,491
Trading profits after interest	111.0	97.5
Group profits before taxation	113.5	104.0
Taxation	(45.7)	(39.2)
Extraordinary items	(3.0)	(20.9)
Dividend	(25.1)	(22.4)
Added to reserves	38.9	20.3

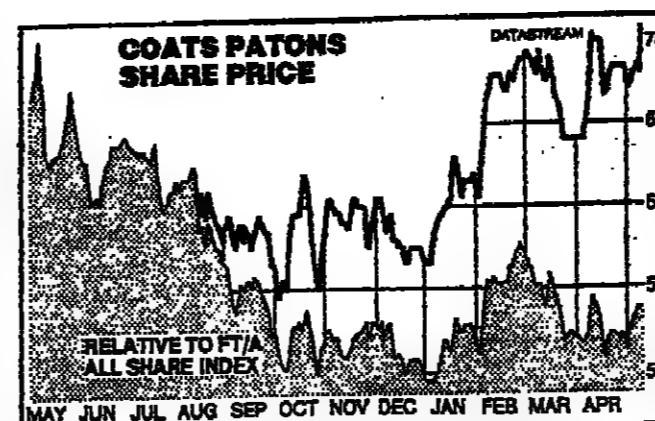
- Trading profits after interest increased by 14% to £111m.
 - Dividend increased by 12% to 2.8p per share.
 - Property revaluation surplus £119m added to reserves.
 - 1 for 2 scrip issue.

Copies of the 1982/83 Annual Report will be available from 3rd June 1983 and may be obtained from The Secretary, Sears Holdings plc, 40 Duke Street, London W1A 2HP.

Footwear retailers • departmental stores, jewellery and other retailing • motor vehicle sales, service and delivery • licensed betting offices • property development and investment • engineering.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Sandy McLachlan

Why time may be on Tilling's side



of the recent capital investment programme.

yield is a good two points better than that offered by the market as a whole, and the integrated companies are probably fairly immune to the overall trend in equities.

Spear and Jackson

Spear & Jackson internationals
 Year to 1.1.83
 Pretax loss £1.8m (profit £384,000)
 Stated loss 30.8p (earnings 1.1p)
 Turnover £28.9m (£230.6m)
 Net total dividend (final passed) 1p
 (5.575p)
 Share price 73p, no change.

The 1982 results from Spear & Jackson International, the tool makers, were pretty appalling, whichever way you look at them. It plunged into the red

But a doubling in the number
of projected United States
lumber states this year has

The slump in United States

housing cut demand for timber from both Canada and the United States. This hit the Spear saw factories in North America and in Sheffield where the plate and steel for export is made. The cuts in North America were so great that Spear was unable to cover its British overheads.

The garden and hand tools business was profitable, although well down.

Spear always has sound explanations for its problems

but it does little to dissuade anyone from the notion that its spades are a better long-term investment than the shares.

Trafalgar Houses's announcement that it is to purchase two luxury cruise liners next October.

bus,
best
BP
stock
but
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nise
and
ring
base
as
good
berfor' £73m (£46.5m) under-
lines the group's declared policy
of reducing its reliance on
property profits. These fell by
nearly £5m in the half-year to
last March but thriving passen-
ger shipping, construction and
housing activities pushed group
pretax profits £5.84m higher at
£33.56m. The increase in the
half-year dividend will leave the
shares on an undemanding yield

oats Patons

The good news at Coats
ons, the Jaeger clothing and
wear group, is that trading
this last year were not much
different to 1981 despite prob-
lems in most of its markets. The
news is that more than one-
third of profits came from
North America and first quarter

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Professor Maurice Peston on
Wynne Godley and Francis Cripps's
attempt to 'rebuild macroeconomics'

A failed attempt to reconstruct Keynes

I must start in a rather unconventional way by pointing out what this book is not. *Macroeconomics* is not a survey of macroeconomics, either of theory or of recent controversy about the applicability of theory to the real world.

It is not even an account of Keynesian macroeconomics, at least insofar as that subject is studied and taught in the main academic centres of the US and Britain.

Indeed, one of its more remarkable characteristics is its lack of reference to the publications of virtually all major contemporary contributors to the subject. There is a kind of nursery school democracy about it - if one economist is not to be quoted then none shall have that honour. Whatever else one thinks of it, therefore, for the publishers to call it a masterpiece is simply preposterous.

Of course, the authors themselves make no attempt to mislead. To quote them, "What we are hoping to do is establish a logical framework for the analysis of macroeconomic phenomena which is coherent and simple enough to rinse away some of the sheer confusion which surrounds the subject at present, thereby facilitating orderly and creative work on the problems of stagnation, unemployment and inflation..."

The model

In other words, they are trying to rebuild macroeconomics rather than explain it. I am tempted to go further and say their book reads as if they believe that macroeconomics did not exist before they invented it in their part of Cambridge University.

The theory we are offered in the first instance is in three parts. There is a simple model of an economy in which the variables are expressed in ordinary monetary units. Secondly, there is an account of price inflation. Thirdly, an attempt is made to go from the first two to an analysis of the economy in real terms.

The simple model has several characteristics which are worth noting. It lump together all private expenditure except inventory accumulation. Thus, it ignores the distinction between consumption and investment which Keynes thought so important. It postulates a fixed normal relationship between assets and incomes, and for the most part between the money stock and income which is a central postulate of primitive monetarism.

Essentially, private expenditure is determined by the desired rate at which the actual money stock is brought to equal the desired one. Inventory accumulation is fixed independently and this is financed by bank loans in the form of money. That is very much part of the approach favoured by Sir Dennis Robertson (again not mentioned by name), who was both Keynes's colleague and intellectual opponent.

Variables

Government expenditure is on goods and services, transfer payments being included in the postulated fixed tax rate (i.e. it is a rate net of transfers). Stock equilibrium in the model requires a balanced budget. This means that income and output are determined by the two fiscal variables.

Monetary policy has only transitory effects on real output (as the monetarists themselves state) unless it affects government expenditure or the average tax rate. (Although not a point the authors stress, it may well do both).

Also, in full static equilibrium, there can be no asset accumulation, and, therefore, private income must equal private expenditure.

The inflation model is of the strict cost push kind. It claims to be compatible with other theories, but will, presumably, only be so if they are equivalent to price being a simple mark-up on given unit cost. Underlying their approach to the general price level is the view that inflation is the way the system accommodates itself to conflicts about shares of total income, but this is not elaborated.

It is also interesting to see that they accept the distinction between the nominal rate of interest and the real rate.

They do not however, emphasize the expected inflation rate as the limit; nor do they postulate money demand as a function of the nominal rate. Thus, they do not reach Friedman's conclusion that the demand for real balances falls as the inflation rate rises even with the real rate of interest constant.

They have some useful things to say about inflation accounting. This, they claim, provides the essential link which enables them to go from the nominal economy to the real one. In doing so, they appear to be arguing that their original model, and its analysis, is compatible with any inflation rate. However, it is not, and it is easy to see why. (I say "appear" because their exposition in this part of the book is most opaque, and I am not sure I follow it.)

Equilibrium

If real income and the real stock of money are fixed in equilibrium, and there is inflation, income and money in ordinary units will be growing. It follows that to provide the extra money, the budget must be unbalanced in full equilibrium (and not balanced as their initial exposition states).

Moreover, it is then the case that, given real government expenditure and the tax rate, the faster is inflation, the lower will be equilibrium real output. It will also be true that the budget deficit will be larger.

Now, it remains true that, in this kind of model, expansionary fiscal policy does raise effective demand and real output to the extent that there are no supply constraints. But this goes hand in hand with monetary expansion, illustrating the standard point that monetary policy and fiscal policy can be regarded as two sides of the same coin.

Their view of the supply side is worth mentioning. They argue that in a closed economy there cannot be a supply constraint in the sense that it will be unprofitable for companies to meet an increase in aggregate demand. What they mean by that, however, is merely that, given the level of money wages (or its rate of change), there will be a price level which companies can set which will make it profitable to supply the output.

That is, however, compatible with an extremely steep aggregate supply curve which causes most of an increase in demand to be dissipated in price rises, rather than output expansion. Moreover, as they recognize by implication, in an open economy international competition may inhibit price rises and will certainly imply that some increase in demand will go to overseas suppliers because domestic companies find it unprofitable to meet it.

Puzzle

In addition, if the price response of companies conflicts with workers' real wage demands, it will again be unprofitable for the output demanded to be supplied. In my view, these last two considerations (coupled with a greater emphasis on expectations, rational or otherwise, that the authors give) are vital to an understanding of the economic history of the past decade.

At the risk of returning to the confusions of the 1930s, there is one puzzle to which I must refer. They say that money stocks and flows must satisfy accounting identities in individual budgets, and regard this as quite fundamental.

Now, I thought it had long since been recognised that there is nothing fundamental about an identity, which is this context is simply a way of organizing data. A budget constraint is another matter and is at the core of all economics since without it there would be no scarcity and no costs.

But a constraint is not an identity. In several places in the book Godley and Cripps appear to misunderstand the distinction between an equation and an identity. As an example, they go from an identity concerning price, costs, and a mark-up factor to a causal interpretation reminiscent of the quantity theory of money in its most misleading form.

All I can add is that this is very much in the tradition of Keynes who was equally confused on the nature of identities and equilibrium conditions.

I have been critical of this book in terms of style, method, and content. The authors claim to have re-established "the quintessentially Keynesian principle of effective demand as the determinant of real output and employment". In fact, they tell us nothing about employment, and their treatment of demand and policy is simplistic.

Macroeconomics by Wynne Godley and Francis Cripps. Fontana £3.95.

Graham Searjeant looks at the short-term share trends

Election excitement but only briefly

The June election has provided a welcome comic interlude for stock market analysts. They have spent the past few weeks agonizing over whether the long upward trend in share prices has come to an end or simply paused to rise again as world recovery really starts to materialize. Suddenly the time horizon has shortened to a month after polling.

The stock markets predict rather than genuinely react to events over the months; however much market dealers may like to rationalize daily movements by linking them to strikes, CBI forecasts or the Test match score. So, by the time Mrs Thatcher winged her way to the Palace, stock prices had already assumed her party would win the forthcoming general election, whenever it might be.

But markets day by day express movements, in sentiment, so the only way in the short-term was down. The slightest uncertainty over the result was bound to depress share prices. As so often, recently the impetus came from currency markets as foreigners decided to hedge their bets. Add the natural caution of stock-jobbers, keeping their options open and their books closed, and share prices fell 2 per cent in a day. But at least that means short-term prices can move either way as the campaign unfolds.

Already Pannier Gordon, the stockbroker, has bravely mapped out how the campaign diary might affect bonds and therefore shares. After the initial markdown, the best news should come with a remarkable price index for April due on May 20. Unemployment figures due on June 3 will be sharply

down, but for purely statistical reasons, which could work either way. Later, there could be a cut in US interest rates but any pre-poll cut here would look embarrassingly political. If Mrs Thatcher looks like winning, stocks will rise in the last few days. But remember that in 1979, the markets peaked a month earlier.

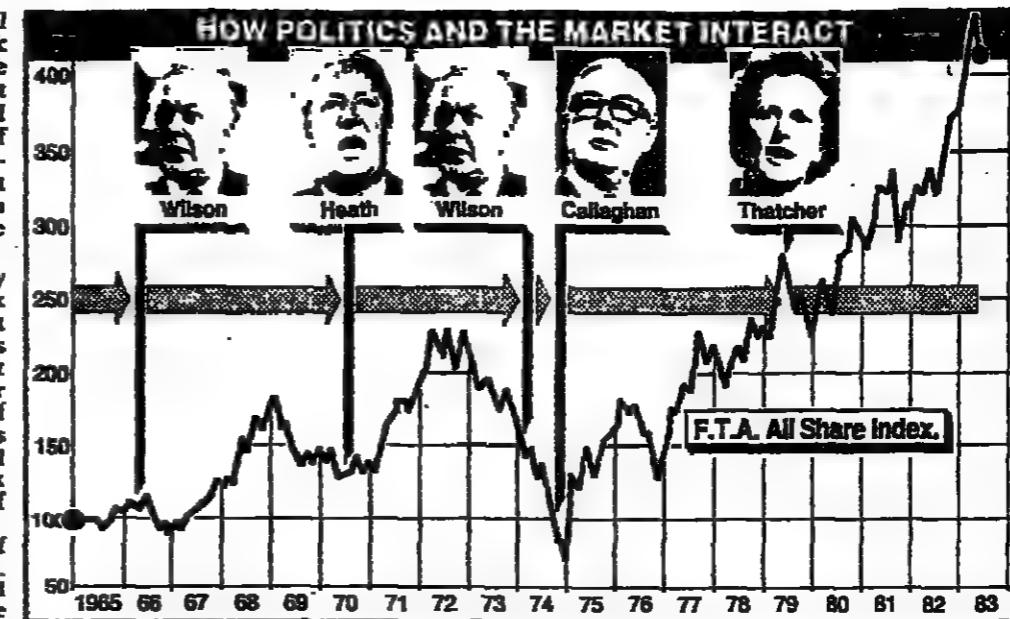
Anything but a Tory victory would surely knock both stock and bond prices. This does not strictly reflect a sober analysis of the effects of a different government: possible higher profits balanced against fears of inflation, deviation, or less likely, higher interest rates. Still less does it bear on the complex short and long-term effects of foreign exchange controls.

It is basically a matter of confidence at home and abroad. Likewise, good timing should yield short-term profits in the euphoria of a Thatcher win. Then it would be quickly back to more mundane analyses.

Some canny observers, such as Mr Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew, already see a returned Tory administration tightening up on the money supply to stifle any resurgence of inflation and inspire employers to stick out for a modest wage round this year. Others, it should be said, see a further cut in base rates as soon as confidence returns.

There are always two sides to the market argument. Old hands taking the seaweed approach see signs of terminal decay in a bull market that took the FT-A all-share index up by two-thirds between September 1981 and its peak in mid-April.

There has been a spate of share-for-share takeover bids to capitalize on successful companies' buoyant currency.



Companies are being launched at fancy prices both on the main stock market and its unlisted securities offshore.

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Companies are being launched



Aberdeen victorious at the last

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Gethenborg

Aberdeen
Real Madrid
After extra time. Score at 90 mins 1-1

An extra-time goal from Hewitt brought Aberdeen victory in the European Cup Winners' Cup final here last night.

But for a huge tarpaulin that covered the whole surface, the match would never have taken place. As it was, before the referee made a brief inspection, Aberdeen chose to warm up in hooded tracksuits to protect themselves from the torrential rain which had been falling persistently since noon. The pitch, shimmering in the floodlights, was like a green handkerchief floating on a lake.

Such appalling conditions seemed to favour the stronger

and fitter Scots, but few could have expected them to start so sensationally. The "wee man" responsible was Strachan, his fiery red hair already plastered to his face. Real recognizing the danger, instructed their tightest marker, Angel, to follow him, but twice in the opening minutes he disobeyed orders.

Strachan first cushioned Metgod's misdirected goal kick on his chest and chipped towards Black, the forward, aged 18, who has been injured and unable to play for almost a month. There was no rustiness in the way that he leant back and struck a remarkable 20-yard volley.

Augustin, startled by such early adventure, did well to stop that shot on the bar. In the seventh minute Aberdeen went ahead. Strachan, after pausing while the referee replaced the ball for the second time, picked out McLeish, advancing rapidly and unnoticed from midfield for a corner. His header was

deflected into the path of Black, who prodded home his fourth goal in the competition.

But the conditions also encouraged errors and Aberdeen were to pay dearly for their first after a quarter of an hour. Miller's back-pass stuck in the mud and Leighton caught the legs of Santillana. Real's captain and leading scorer, as he went by, Juanito equalized cleanly from the penalty-spot.

As Real's more aged limbs began to tire, Aberdeen grew fitter by the minute in comparison, and all the closing opportunities fell their way. Augustin caused a moment's anxiety by dropping another Weir centre ten minutes from the end of normal time, but he recovered from his mistake in time.

Strachan, as positive and as industrious as ever, created the opening for himself by dummying his way through on the right. There, caught between

crossing towards Weir and trying a shot, he succeeded only in lifting his effort gently over the bar.

Augustin, J. Leighton, D. Roque, M. McLeish, N. Cooper, A. McLean, W. Miller, S. Strachan, H. Simpson, M. McHale, G. Steele, D. Miller, R. Augustin, J. Juan Jose, J. Cerezo, J. Meléndez, P. Soler, R. Gallego, J. Juanito, S. Angulo, G. Santillana, U. Sotillo, I. León, F. Vázquez, B. Martínez (Italy).

Referee: B. Marzocchi (Italy).

Attendance: 53,175.

REAL MADRID

After extra time. Score at 90 mins 1-1

Attendance: 53,175.

Match report

Match report

Britain's best prospect ends her low profile days

The secret marathon runner blows her cover and takes off

As British athletics ponders the disturbing probability of her leading contender at the women's first world marathon championship having a mile left to run by the time the winner finishes, waiting in reserve is a girl whose most notable sports achievements until last month were down the wing of a hockey stick.

Sarah Rowell, aged 20, is now a former hockey player. She convinced herself last month that she should retire from the game when she became the best woman marathon prospect Britain has yet produced.

It was not a decision taken lightly. She was an East of England under-22 attacker and a member of the 1981 national under-18 squad. She won a place at Chelsea College of P.E., Eastbourne, primarily on the strength of her hockey. But matches every weekend have been getting in the way of running, and the sixth fastest British woman of all time now wants nothing to obstruct her path to international recognition.

Her age alone would have been reason enough to predict an outstanding future after her improvement of 15 minutes on her best in the London Marathon. The fact that she became a Women's AAA bronze medal winner after an athletics career of only eight races, had received no qualified coaching and had never been heard of by most, if not all 12 members of the national squad, suggests that her time of 3hr 39min 11sec will not be her best for long.

Apart from two other marathons, in which she took almost three hours and various insignificant road and cross country races, Miss Rowell has kept the kind of hidden profile that is normally the style of Kenyans and Ethiopians. It was as much of a surprise to Dartford Harriers as it was to women's distance running in general to learn that the girl who had become a member by telephone seven months earlier was how faster than all but Smith, Gould, Binns, Penny and Horowitz, among British women.

Most Dartford Harriers had never set eyes on her; few had ever encountered her name and when she made her first appearance at club headquarters two days after London, she was late, because she had no idea where Dartford was and got utterly lost. She possessed neither club vest nor that trademark of all ambitious marathon runners, the stopwatch strapped to her wrist.

While Joyce Smith, aged 45, Glynis Penny, 32, and Kathryn Binns, 25, will wear Britain's colours in Helsinki in August, their probable successor is introducing herself to training advice, diet and selective race programmes in an attempt to close the widening gap between British and world standards.

Neither Mrs Smith nor Mrs Penny, both mothers, can be expected to finish around the 2hr 25min mark which will be necessary for Olympic, European or world championship victories. Much depends on fresh young blood, and marathon runners do not come much fresher or younger than Miss Rowell.

She has been asked to represent her country before winning colours for her country, although she may decline the British Amateur Athletic Board's invitation to compete in the women's marathon at the European Cup in Laredo, Spain, on June 19. Miss Rowell is hoping that her event will be included in the World Student Games in Edmonton this summer and would prefer to race there.

She is pacing herself for impact on the Olympic Games next year; by then she may be ready. "I have underestimated the value of racing. I must get more racing experience and do more speedwork. If I can run that time on a year's serious training, most of it hit and miss, then with a coach, I may prove I am the girl of the future."

Cliff Temple, who advises Mike Gratton, the London Marathon winner, has agreed to refine her 95 miles a week training schedule. "What makes Sarah so remarkable," Temple says, "is that she was right here under our noses and we didn't know about her".



Rowell: girl who can go a long way.

Temple may not have known her, but she knew of him through his work as an athletic author: "Because I was so new I read everything I could. Every time a marathon book came out I read it - anything that was going because I had no idea what I was supposed to be doing".

Temple, her coach since May 1 has begun to delete the errors in her routine: "I was horrified to hear how much training she was doing so close to the London Marathon - 85 miles the week before. She won't do that again. What she will be doing, though, is more interval training".

The average age of the national squad, which Miss Rowell joined for training for the first time last weekend, is 33. The world's fastest marathons are being recorded by women who are considerably younger. Joan Benoit (United States), Alison Roe (New Zealand) and Grete Waitz (Norway) are all in their twenties with the American, most impressive of them all, the youngest of the three at 25.

"A year ago the only marathon runners I had ever heard of were Joyce Smith, Alison Row and Grete Waitz", Miss Rowell recalls. "What I notice most now is that the age is coming down".

She remembers vividly her first step from obscurity: her lonely wait in the women's rest tent before the start at London. "I got there early and it was empty. I was sitting on the table and the next person to walk in was Grete Waitz. I remember thinking 'this is going up in the world - just me and this legendary figure'. It would be nice if one day the roles were reversed".

David Powell

GOLF

Distance and course suit Scot

By John Hennessy,
Golf Correspondent



years ago. He is in the position of a fancied racehorse who has won over the distance and the course.

Wilmot has taken a swerve from the weaker (but which course isn't?) and players were allowed to use preferred tees in yesterday's pro-am. There was little rain, however, and with another out of the fairways it was hoped that normal conditions would obtain today. It is not a long-hitters' course, since the par is only 70, with two per fives, both before the turn. Gallacher, a man of finesse rather than force, was able to bring in a final card two years ago at 16 under par for the tournament.

A Ryder Cup place beckons for the first 12 in the money list at the appropriate time. At the moment Langer, with £12,123, leads marginally from James, £12,060, followed by "Brand" X* with £10,636, Ballesteros with £10,509, Lye with £10,029, Faldo with £8,624 from only 12 cards. On the round projection, £30,000 seems a reasonable requirement. Ballesteros will not be playing this week.

Britain's deputy

Ebie Brown, of Llandudno (Maeerd) Golf Club, will be deputy captain of the Great Britain team for the women's Commonwealth tournament and also the Great Britain and Ireland side for the Vagliano Trophy.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Sex story could affect morale

Under the strain of a recent controversial press interview given by one of them, the women's pentathlon team sent for France yesterday for their first contest of the season, at Beauvais.

Sarah Parker, Katherine Taylor and Teresa Purton, are there from last year's world championship team and Victoria Sowerby makes up the four. Missing from the team is Wendy Norman, the world champion, who has been in New Zealand studying sport. She will return to Britain shortly.

Since Miss Parker took the world silver last year and Miss Taylor the bronze and an injury reduced the highly-talented Miss Purton to a limp, the competition to stay in the team is going to be intense.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull team unchanged

By Keith Macklin

Despite the disappointment of defeat in last Saturday's Challenge Cup Final, Arthur Bunting, manager of Hull, has named an unchanged squad for Saturday's premiership final against Widnes at Headingley.

Bunting has decided to make no changes and he also calls Kevin Martin, the scrum half, to have recovered from the concussion which put him out of action for most of Saturday's final. Ironically, Bunting himself was yesterday ill in bed with influenza as he named an unchanged squad to include a team of thirteen and two substitutes.

Widnes are hoping to choose from a full strength squad, with Kevin Tamati, their New Zealand prop forward, willing to play with pain-killing injections in his injured hand.

David Barends, the black South African winger, who plays for Bradford Northern, has suggested a summer tour of South Africa by a mixed nationality Rugby League party.

HOCKEY

The final pay-off

By Sydney Friskin

**RAPC (Worthy Down) — 1
2nd Field Regiment RA — 0**

The Royal Army Pay Corps Worthy Down brought the British Army Cup back to the United Kingdom by defeating the 2nd Field Regiment Royal Artillery in the final at Aldershot yesterday. The 45th Field Regiment had taken this trophy back to the Rhine last year.

This was the fourth success by the RAPC and they had to work hard yesterday to achieve it. They took command of the first 20 minutes, but the Gunners' tightly organised defence, in which Brindle was outstanding, prevented further scoring. The match was won and lost in the 18th minute when scored after a brief tussle which followed a short corner.

Unfortunately for the Field Regiment they had little to show up front. Except for two short corners in the first half, which failed to control, they did not offer much of a threat. In the first minute of the second half, however, a quick surge through the middle ended in a well-hit shot by Wollomcombe just missing the mark.

Cue for Davis

The world professional snooker champion Steve Davis will play in the British pro-am golf team to meet Australia for the Chef and Brewer Trophy at Moor Park on July 18.

CRICKET

(11.04.83 unless stated)
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
CHESTERFIELD Derbyshire v Lancashire
CHESHIRE Cheshire v Kent.
GLoucestershire Gloucester v Sussex.
SOUTHAMPTON Hampshire v Warwickshire.
WEST MIDLANDS Warwickshire v Nottinghamshire.

THE OVAL — Surrey v Leicestershire
— Middlesex v Worcestershire v Somerset
(11.05.7-10.06)

Other Matches
CAMBRIDGE Cambridge University v MCC
(11.05.6-20)
CAMBRIDGE Cambridge University v Gloucester
CLIFTON Clifton v Worcester
DORSET Dorset v Kent
ESSEX Essex v Warwickshire
LEICESTERSHIRE Leicestershire v Gloucester
NORTHANTS Northants v Warwickshire
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Nottinghamshire v Warwickshire
SUSSEX Sussex v Kent
WEST YORKSHIRE West Yorkshire v Lancashire

TAUNTON Somerset v Gloucester
EAST ANGLIA Norfolk v Kent
NORTHUMBERLAND Northumbria v Lancashire

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP:
BURTON Burton v Northamptonshire
EMDEN EMDEN CC Middlesex v Essex
FOLKESTONE Folkestone v Gloucester
TENTER BRIDGE Tenterbridge v Warwickshire

TAUNTON Somerset v Gloucester
EAST ANGLIA Norfolk v Kent
NORTHUMBERLAND Northumbria v Lancashire

FOOTBALL
(Kick-off 7.30 unless stated)
ISTANBUL LEAGUE Second division: Barren Rovers v Latchworth GC. Hattersfield v Colne.

COLCHESTER CO-OPERATIVE Colchester Palace v Luton, Fulham v Watford 2.0, St Peter's Athletic ground, Ipswich v Southampton (2.15).

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry, Second division: Derby v Wigan, Middlesbrough v Barnsley, Oldham v Bradford City, Preston North End v Nottingham Forest, Newcastle v Manchester United (2.00).

SECOND DIVISION: First division: Bradford City v Luton, 2.0, St Peter's Athletic ground, Ipswich v Southampton (2.15).

LEEDS CITY v Birmingham City (2.00).

CRICKET
Bathgate Salterton Tournament

TENNIS
Lee-on-Solent Men's Challenger Series

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET
(11.04.83 unless stated)
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
CHESTERFIELD Derbyshire v Lancashire
CHESHIRE Cheshire v Kent.
GLoucestershire Gloucester v Sussex.
SOUTHAMPTON Hampshire v Warwickshire.
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DORSET Dorset v Kent
ESSEX Essex v Warwickshire
LEICESTERSHIRE Leicestershire v Gloucester
NORTHANTS Northants v Warwickshire
SUSSEX Sussex v Kent
WEST YORKSHIRE West Yorkshire v Lancashire

TAUNTON Somerset v Gloucester
EAST ANGLIA Norfolk v Kent
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CRICKET
Bathgate Salterton Tournament

TENNIS
Lee-on-Solent Men's Challenger Series

La crème de la crème

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CLOSING DATE: 27 May, 1983.

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Applicants will be short-listed and interviews held during the week commencing 4 July.

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For M.D. of large yacht equipment store in W1. Suitable experience and qualifications. Good experience £20,000-£27,000 p.a.

(continued on page 34)

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Required by Lady Concert Pictures and Music Agent. Good organisational and administrative skills with 2 small children. Salary £10,000-£12,000 p.a.

(continued on page 34)

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HORIZONS

The Times Guide to careers training

No moves without money

Richard Stokes discusses the problems of moving to a job

Before Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister, governments of both major parties believed in taking jobs to the people. Regional Development Aid was the most important of several agreed "interventionist" policies. Since 1979 Involuntary recruits to the growing army of the unemployed have been exhorted to show initiative by moving in search of jobs - wherever those jobs might be found. How realistic is the mass mobility programme?

For a variety of reasons, the British within the United Kingdom have been a relatively static race. The Department of the Environment Survey of National Movements, 1978, confirmed the customary 8 per cent "annual household moves". More than half the families involved, moved less than five miles, and two thirds less than 10 miles. Fewer than one quarter of the removals (1.76 per cent of total households) had anything to do with employment. Even in the present unprecedented recession, the unemployed display a marked reluctance or perhaps, an inability to relocate to find work. As W W Daniel recorded in *The Unemployed Flow* (Stage 1, Interim Report, PSI [1981]) - "People tend to move geographically for work from the security and confidence of employment in order to get better jobs. When without work, people tend to need the psychological support of being among people and places that are familiar... Of those out of work only 12 per cent has applied for jobs that would involve a move."

The main reasons for the reluctance to move were identified in the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on *Unemployment* (Vol 1 - Report, May 1982) as - "Family and locality; education needs; a spouse's job and the minimum security which his or her wages can provide and very important - housing".

An impressive and comprehensive research study, organized within the Bartlett School of Architecture and Planning at the University College, London (to be published later this year) Dr. Danuta Jachniak concludes that - "Employers leave their employees to find their own housing solutions, or they look to central and local government to take the initiative in providing housing for mobility".

Those employees in rented accommodation face a near impossible problem. If in private rented property, they are confronted by escalating rents and increasingly scarce tenancies. If in local authority rented accommodation, they encounter widespread resistance to proposed exchange arrangements. To quote Dr. Jachniak again - "Local authority exchange initiatives are uncommon. Local authorities are reluctant to allocate scarce housing resources to migrant households at the expense of local residents."

incidence of mortgage default has more than doubled since 1980.

Re-locating for work frequently means conning a move from the North or Midlands to the South, especially to the South-east. Privately rented houses in the Greater London area are more likely to be slums. At the last count 90,000 private tenants were living in London houses designated as unfit for human habitation. Even those prepared to pay the cheapest sub-standard property in the Greater London area, need an income of £12,000 to secure a mortgage.

Paradoxically the greatest assistance with moving is provided for the most highly-paid executives. Traditionally at senior management level a readiness to re-locate has been a pre-requisite for a progressive career. Companies continue to help a relatively small group of managers and professional staff with removal expenses, legal fees, estate agent fees, disturbance allowances, interest free bridging loans, and frequently capital grants to facilitate the purchase of more expensive property.

For the unemployed and those threatened with redundancy, moving home is not a realistic option. In the words of the House of Lords Select Committee on Unemployment: "We are driven to the conclusion that mobility can only be a minor remedy for unemployment. Most remedies for unemployment must be based on local labour markets and travel-to-work areas. This will conform with what we believe to be the natural inclinations of most workers and will allow planning to take place on the scale that is most likely to produce results".

In many instances house purchase decisions had been based upon a calculation of joint incomes - and a belief that husband and wife would continue in employment. The Department of Health and Social Security paid a massive £14m in mortgage assistance during 1982 (and the figure is bound to rise again in 1983). Such assistance is provided, however, only if the husband is unemployed. The

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MARKETPLACE

In a new monthly column Philip Schofield looks at job vacancies

The British recruitment market is showing clear signs of gradual recovery. Vacancies notified to Jobcentres, a third of the total, averaged 173,000 a month for the three months ending April on a seasonally adjusted basis - 6 per cent up on last year. The number of vacancies remaining unfilled in early May was the highest since June 1980.

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Leonard Allen, director of the Federation of Personnel Services, reports that its employment bureaux members have seen "a small but sustained increase in recruitment activity since last November."

Appointments General

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK ENGLISH TRANSLATORS/ PRECIS WRITERS

working from French and Arabic

A competitive examination for the recruitment of ENGLISH translators/precis writers will be held on 4 and 5 August, 1983, to fill vacancies in the Translation Division, Department of Conference Services, at the United Nations Secretariat in New York and subsequently at other duty stations. A roster from which future vacancies for translators will be filled will be established. As recruitment may lead to career appointments, the United Nations is looking for candidates who can serve

Budget rebate problem persists

By Patricia Clough

The European Community summit in Stuttgart on June 6 and 7 will not produce a long-term solution to Britain's contributions to the EEC budget and it is not certain that it will agree on Britain's 1983 rebate either, the House of Commons was told yesterday.

But MPs were assured by Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, that the Government was "absolutely confident that it will achieve a settlement of the (rebate) problem which is satisfactory to the House and the British people."

Meanwhile, in Brussels the budget committee of the European Parliament agreed not to block Britain's rebate for 1983 to avoid embarrassing the Government just before the elections. The Parliament is expected to approve the decision.

Last year, the European Parliament refused for several months to approve the rebate in order to force member governments to look for a long-term solution to the Community budget problem.

In Westminster, question time on EEC matters had turned into a miniature version of the forthcoming election campaign in which Britain's membership of the Community is likely to be one of the principal issues. Catchy phrases and figures flew as members on both sides tried out their ammunition.

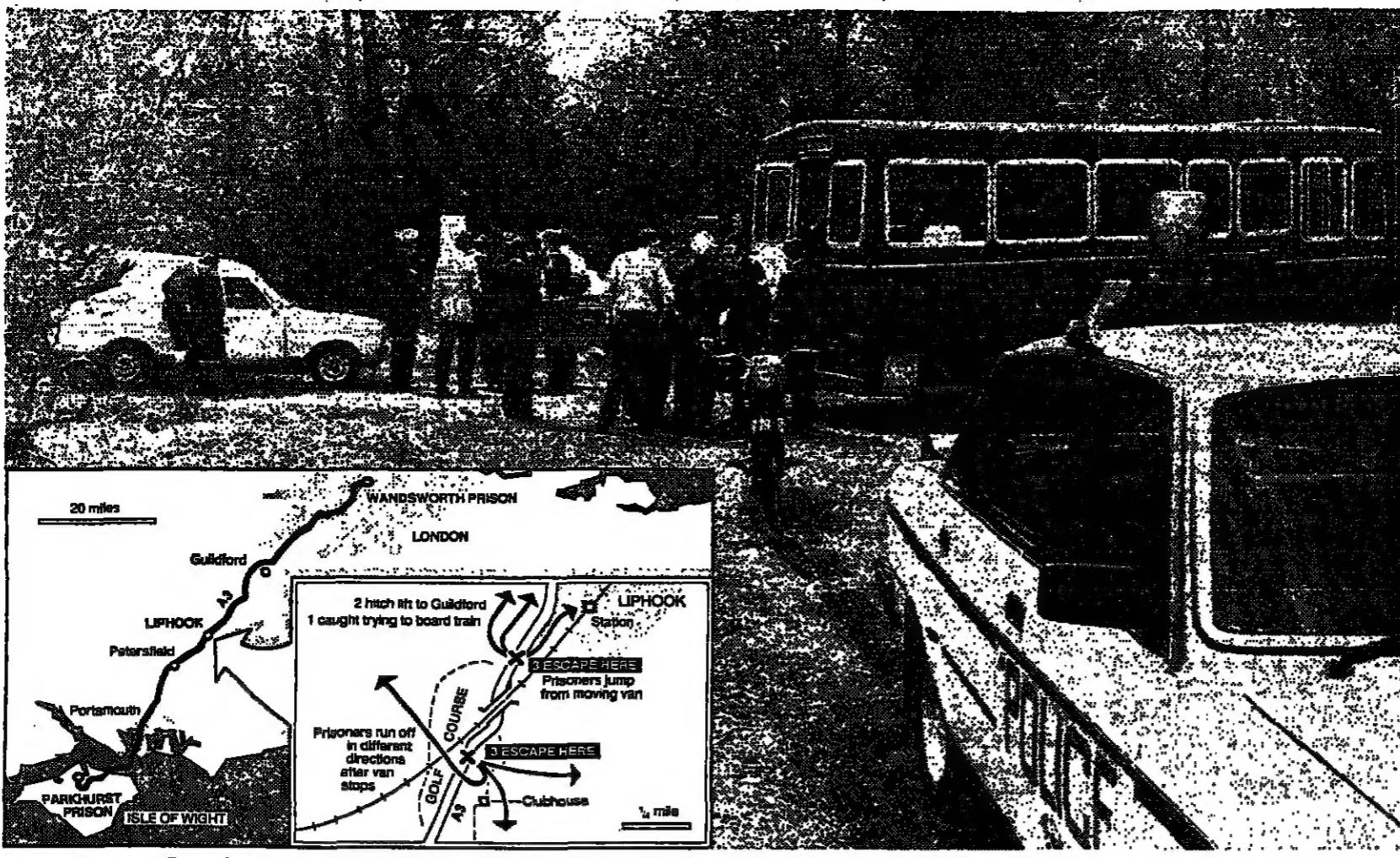
The Prime Minister said she would get an agreement by June. Mr Eric Heffer, the Opposition's main spokesman on EEC said: "It is clear there is not to be an agreement by June. It is not an idea for the Prime Minister not to bother to go to Stuttgart but to wait until after the general election and we have won it and begun the process of withdrawal."

MR Iain Evans, another staunch Labour opponent of British membership, asked the Foreign Secretary to confirm that since it entered the EEC has cost Britain £6,000m and as a nation £1m for every day?

Mr Pym counter-attacked with more figures: the Government had been able to negotiate a total refund of £2,000m so far.

It remained to be seen whether Stuttgart would agree on a rebate on Britain's contributions to the 1983 budget.

EEC olive branch, page 6



Investigation under way: Police and prison officers at the scene of the van escape near Liphook golf course, Hampshire.

Prisoners on the run after van escape

Continued from page 1

club, telephoned the police and closed the course for an hour-and-a-half while police dogs were used to search for the men. It was reopened in the afternoon for a women's match.

Of the three golf course escapers one later identified as Stephen Wiltshire, aged 32, serving a 9-year sentence for kidnapping and blackmail, gave himself up to a reporter from *The Sun* newspaper, who took him to Alton police station.

The two still at large last night were James Stuart Virtue, aged 26, serving 10 years of robbery, and Anthony Jones, aged 33, serving five years for theft and robbery, were recaptured at Guildford last night. Virtue had been involved in a previous escape from Wormwood Scrubs in 1966. He was recaptured after five weeks and sentenced to two years for his part in the escape.

The governor of Wandsworth prison will be carrying out an inquiry into the escape. The van was unescorted.

off one of the other officers to release the handcuffs.

The guards were shaken and suffered cuts and bruises, but none of us was seriously injured. The men involved are not Category A prisoners, but being prisoners they can be dangerous."

Inspector Ron Nevitt, of Sussex police, said the prisoners who were handcuffed in pairs, had staged a mock fight at a diversion, before they overpowered the officers. He said the driver, who was in a second cabin, would have been under orders to keep going.

Two of the prisoners, John Virtue aged 37, serving 10 years for robbery, and Henry Wright, 45, serving 10 years for theft and robbery, were recaptured at Guildford last night. Virtue had been involved in a previous escape from Wormwood Scrubs in 1966. He was recaptured after five weeks and sentenced to two years for his part in the escape.

The joint leadership and its supporters were not prepared to risk the structure by allowing the adjustment of a comma.

● The Conservatives are given a 17½ per cent lead over Labour in a Gallup opinion poll published in today's *Daily Telegraph*.

The poll, conducted over the weekend, shows the Tories have the support of 49 per cent of the electorate, Labour 31½ per cent, SDP-Liberal Alliance 17½ per cent and other parties 2 per cent.

But if Shergar is alive (some think he is being hidden in a remote part of Northern Ire-

Labour agrees election manifesto

Continued from page 1

Mr Mortimer did not exaggerate. The sensitive passages notably on nuclear weapons and the European Community, were constructed at numerous sessions between January and March, where totally opposite views were reconciled and every word fought for.

The result can be differently read by different members of the party, not least by Mr Foot, a unilateralist, and Mr Denis Healey, his multilateralist deputy.

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But if Shergar is alive (some think he is being hidden in a remote part of Northern Ire-

Shergar's sperm 'could have been sold'

By John Witherow

Racing experts conceded yesterday that Shergar, one of the world's most valuable horses kidnapped three months ago in the Irish Republic, could have its sperm used to impregnate mares by artificial insemination.

Though such a possibility may deserve more attention in a Dick Francis thriller, they said the discovery that Shergar's illegally-bred offspring could eventually be racing could throw the bloodstock industry into confusion.

The prevalence of such a theory reflects the mystery surrounding the kidnapping. After initial contact with the armed gang there has been silence and many in the industry believe the 1981 Derby winner is dead.

Members of the syndicate which owns Shergar have lodged claims totalling £6m with insurance companies, a payout that would be the biggest in the history of bloodstock racing.

But if Shergar is alive (some think he is being hidden in a remote part of Northern Ire-

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Two minutes on English starting - now

For Mr Michael English all life is an eternal edition of *Mastermind*. His special subject is Parliamentary Procedure, with Special Reference to Points of Order. He also does quite well on general knowledge.

And as with all those train drivers and taxi drivers who tend to win the annual award, Mr English is a great encouragement to self-improvers. For he does not have the sort of educated job associated with a man with such a vast knowledge of parliamentary procedure. He is an MP.

He took up the interest as a hobby shortly after being elected for a Nottingham seat in the Labour interest in 1964. By boring away diligently in his spare time, he has made himself the master of one of the most tedious of all branches of human knowledge. He is a lesson to us all.

But yesterday came the sudden news that, as a result of those dark processes in his party broadly embraced by the term "reselection", Mr English will not now be a candidate for any Nottingham seat in the forthcoming election. It must be assumed that he will be a candidate anywhere, certainly not a seat likely to be won by his party.

"Is it not an abuse of our procedures to book time and then withdraw it after the time at which it is possible for other hon members to book the same time?" he protested. "The blood surges through his veins for the last time, just as it had done so often since 1964.

"The thing, perhaps, which cut me to the quick is that he has deprived me of my swan song in this House when it was just possible I might have managed to defeat him with the votes of both parties," he told the Speaker, Mr George Thomas.

Mr English said it with a smile. But we knew that in reality his heart was torn.

Mr Nicholas Winterton, the exuberant Conservative member for Macclesfield, rose. No proceduralist, he. Indeed, procedure was invented to control people such as him. He dispensed with Englisherian subtleties. He just announced that the Liberals lacked the courage to raise the matter so close to an election.

But the Speaker, who himself will not be a member of the next Parliament, warmly ruled that it was in order for a member to withdraw a Bill if he so chose.

"I think I have had enough now," sighed the Speaker, which phrase must serve as the epitaph to the English Years.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales attends the formal dedication ceremony of the Maureen Production Platform, Kishorn, Wester Ross, 11.30.

Princess Anne attends the Floral Luncheon in aid of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshop, Savoy Hotel, London, 12.30.

The Duke of Gloucester opens the Fitzwilliam Hospital, Peterborough, 3.

Princess Alexandra opens Hay Lodge Hospital and Health Centre, Poole, 2; opens new park in Walkerslawn, Scotland, 4.

Exhibitions in progress

Tony Cobbold Eastern Arts Exhibition (British art competition entries), Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.15 to 5 (until May 29).

Teamwork: by Dundee Group (artists) and Dundee Printmakers Workshop, Meadowplace Gallery, 10 Victoria Chambers, Dundee; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 6, closed Tuesdays (until May 29).

Etching by Stephen Whittle; and original prints from Royal Academy Graphics, Tintagel, 2a Salisbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham; Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (until May 28).

Paintings by Vanessa Bell, Royal College of Art, Castle, High Street, Cambridge; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until May 28).

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